



35¢

NO. 479

JAN.

30410

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CODE

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AUTHORITY



I NEVER
THOUGHT
ANYTHING
COULD HIT
SUPERMAN
THAT
HARD!

BUT
WHO--
OR
WHAT?
THERE'S
NOTHING
THERE

BUCKLER OKSNER



THE PENGUIN

in
"The CUCKOO CUCKOOS"

FLY, YOU CUCKOOS, FLY!
WITH MY UMBRELLA DIRECTING
YOU TO ROB, PILLAGE, PECK
AND ANNOY, WE'LL SOON
HAVE 'EM ALL CUCKOO.
THEN I'LL TAKE OVER
THE WHOLE CITY.

CUCKOO
CUCKOO CUCKOO

HSSSS!!
HSSSS!!

WELL, PENGUIN,
I GUESS WE'LL FEATHER
OUR NESTS AFTER THIS.

WE? WHAT WE? THE
PENGUIN IS NEVER A "WE."
IT IS I WHO AM THE
MASTERMIND, NOT YOU,
BIRDBRAIN. ERGO, IT
IS I WHO SHALL PROFIT
MOST HANDSOMELY
FROM THIS CAPER. IF
YOU THINK YOU'RE ON
THE SAME PLANE AS ME,
YOU MUST BE A
CUCKOO, CUCKOO.

THERE'S GOTTA BE A
WAY TO STOP THESE
VULTURES. I KNOW--

HEY, YOU BIRDS!! LOOK!
**DELICIOUS HOSTESS®
FRUIT PIES...**

NO! NO!! NOT REAL
FRUIT FILLING!! TENDER,
LIGHT CRUST!! LUSCIOUS
APPLE AND CHERRY!
MY CLOCKS ARE NOT THAT
CUCKOO THAT THEY'D
PASS UP **DELICIOUS
HOSTESS FRUIT
PIES!**

THAT'S RIGHT!
THEY'D EVEN DESERT
YOU, PENGUIN, FOR
LAW, ORDER, APPLE
AND CHERRY!

WE'RE CRAZY ABOUT
HOSTESS FRUIT PIES!
LONG LIVE APPLE AND CHERRY!

OKAY, PENGUIN,
LET'S SEE YOU WADDLE
OFF TO JAIL.

CUCKOO
CUCKOO
CUCKOO

YOU GET A BIG DELIGHT
IN EVERY BITE
OF **HOSTESS® FRUIT PIES**



ROCKETED AS A BABY FROM THE EXPLODING PLANET KRYPTON, KAL-EL GREW TO MANHOOD ON EARTH--WHOSE YELLOW SUN AND LIGHTER GRAVITY GAVE HIM FANTASTIC SUPER-POWERS! IN THE CITY OF METROPOLIS, HE POSES AS MILD-MANNERED TV NEWSMAN CLARK KENT--BUT BATTLES EVIL ALL OVER EARTH--AND BEYOND--AS...

SUPERMAN

Created by
JERRY SIEGEL &
JOE SHUSTER

YESTERDAY THE
WORLD WAS
FLOODED, AS
THOUGH MANKIND
HAD ONCE AGAIN
INCITED THE
WRATH OF GOD...
BUT THAT WAS
YESTERDAY.

THIS MORNING,
THE SUN SHINES
ANEW, AND THE
FLOODING
RECEDES--

--THOUGH NOT
WITHOUT A LITTLE
HELP FROM THE
HERO KNOWN AS
SUPERMAN!

TERRIFIC!
LOOK AT OLD
SUPER-GUY USE
HIS SUPER-BREATH
TO CLEAR THE
STREETS OF DEBRIS!
JUST LIKE--
JUST LIKE--

--LIKE MOSES
PARTING THE
RED SEA?

CUTE,
LOMBARD...
REAL
CUTE!

THE GIANT FROM THE GOLDEN-ATOM!

GERRY CONWAY
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GENE BVA
LETTERER

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WE'RE UP TO OUR AFTER-SHAVE IN WATER-LOGGED GARBAGE, AND YOU STAND THERE PLAYING ONE-MAN ADMIRATION SOCIETY FOR THAT SUPER-STREET-CLEANER!

GEE, MR. EDGE... WHY GET SORE AT ME? I'M JUST YOUR SPORTSCASTER...

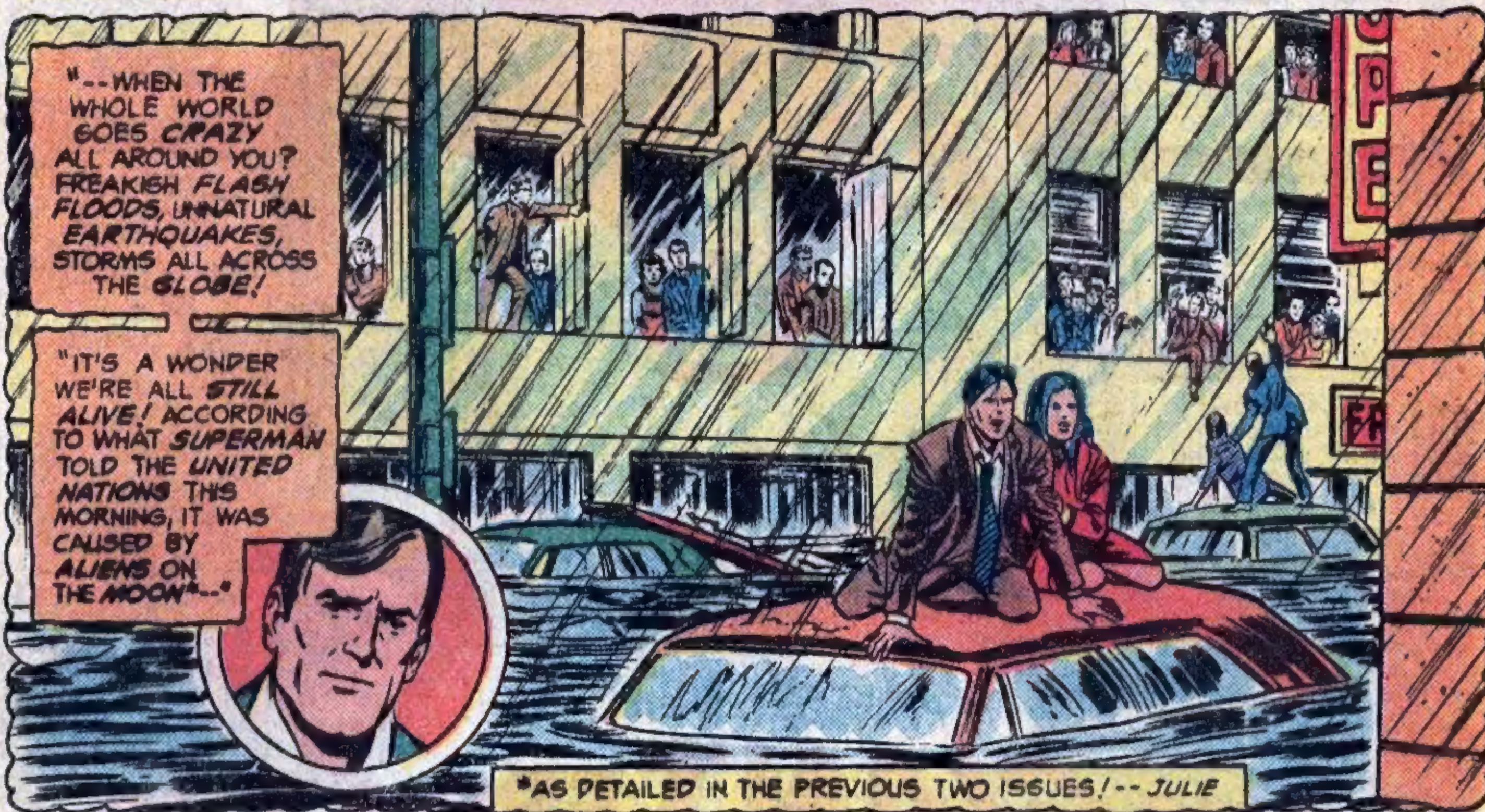
...IT ISN'T MY FAULT ALL THIS HAPPENED!



AH, LOMBARD'S RIGHT! I'M ANGRY AT EVERYONE TODAY... EVEN SUPERMAN... WHO SAVED ALL OUR SKINS... BECAUSE I FELT SO HELPLESS LAST NIGHT!

THE WORLD WAS BEING WASHED AWAY BY ALIENS... AND THERE WASN'T A BLAMED THING MILLIONAIRE MORGAN EDGE COULD DO TO STOP IT!

WHAT GOOD IS OWNING YOUR OWN COMMUNICATIONS EMPIRE--



"--WHEN THE WHOLE WORLD GOES CRAZY ALL AROUND YOU? FREAKISH FLASH FLOODS, UNNATURAL EARTHQUAKES, STORMS ALL ACROSS THE GLOBE!

"IT'S A WONDER WE'RE ALL STILL ALIVE! ACCORDING TO WHAT SUPERMAN TOLD THE UNITED NATIONS THIS MORNING, IT WAS CAUSED BY ALIENS ON THE MOON!..."



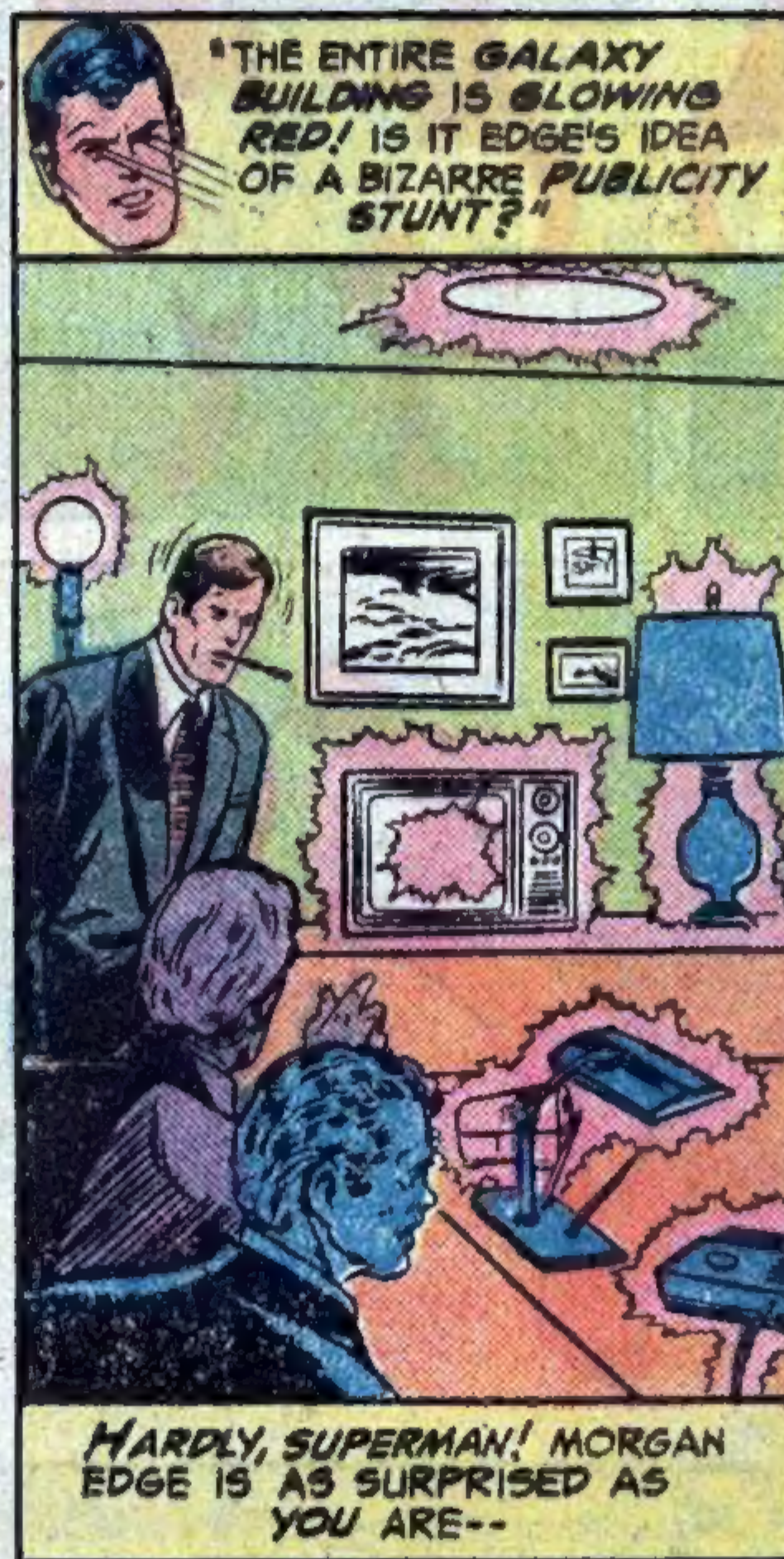
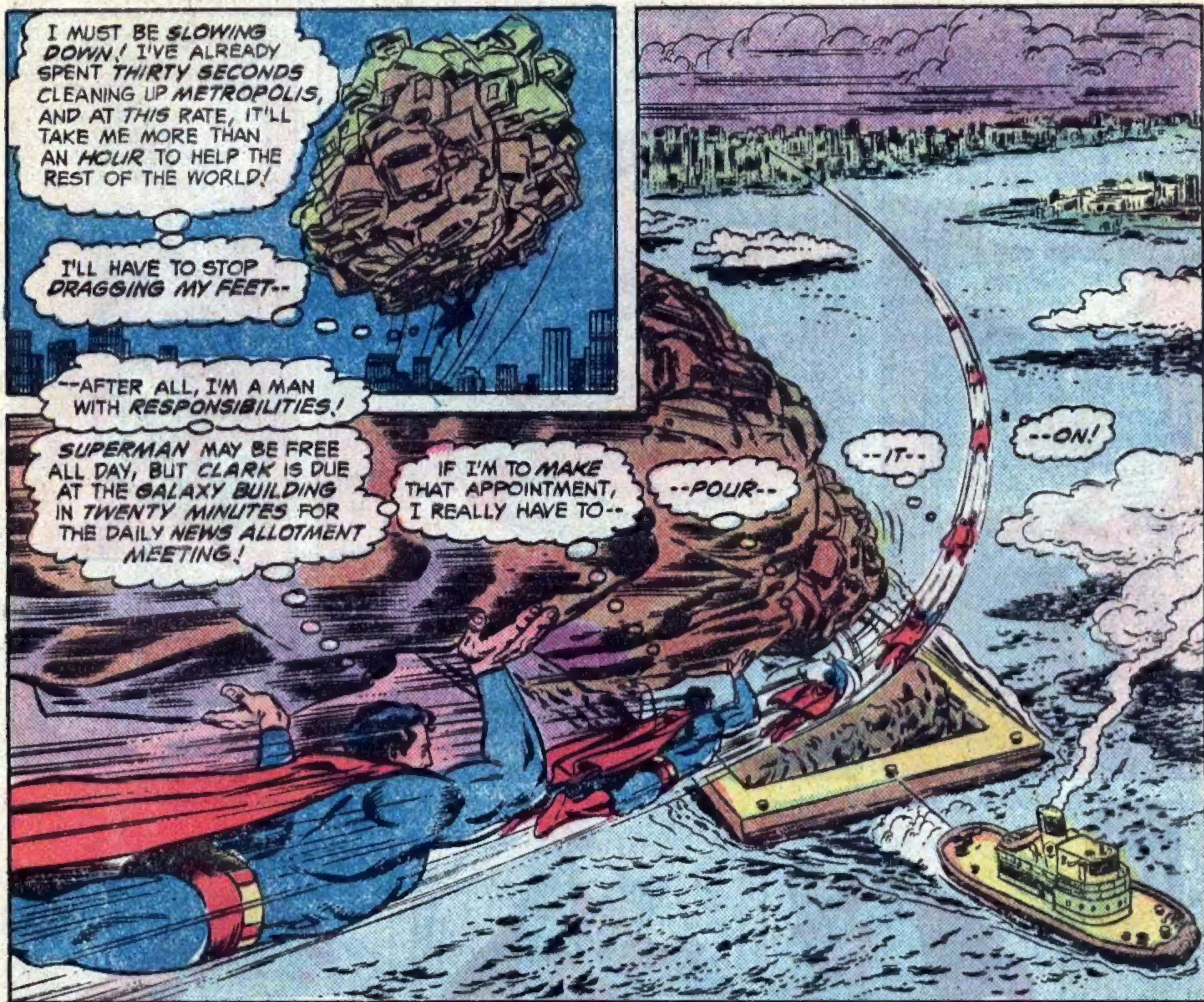
*AS DETAILED IN THE PREVIOUS TWO ISSUES!-- JULIE



BUT THEY'RE GONE NOW... SO I GUESS, IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE, IT'S ALL WATER UNDER THE BRIDGE!

HMM... GOTTA HAND IT TO SUPERMAN, THOUGH...

...HE SURE KNOWS HOW TO GET A JOB DONE!

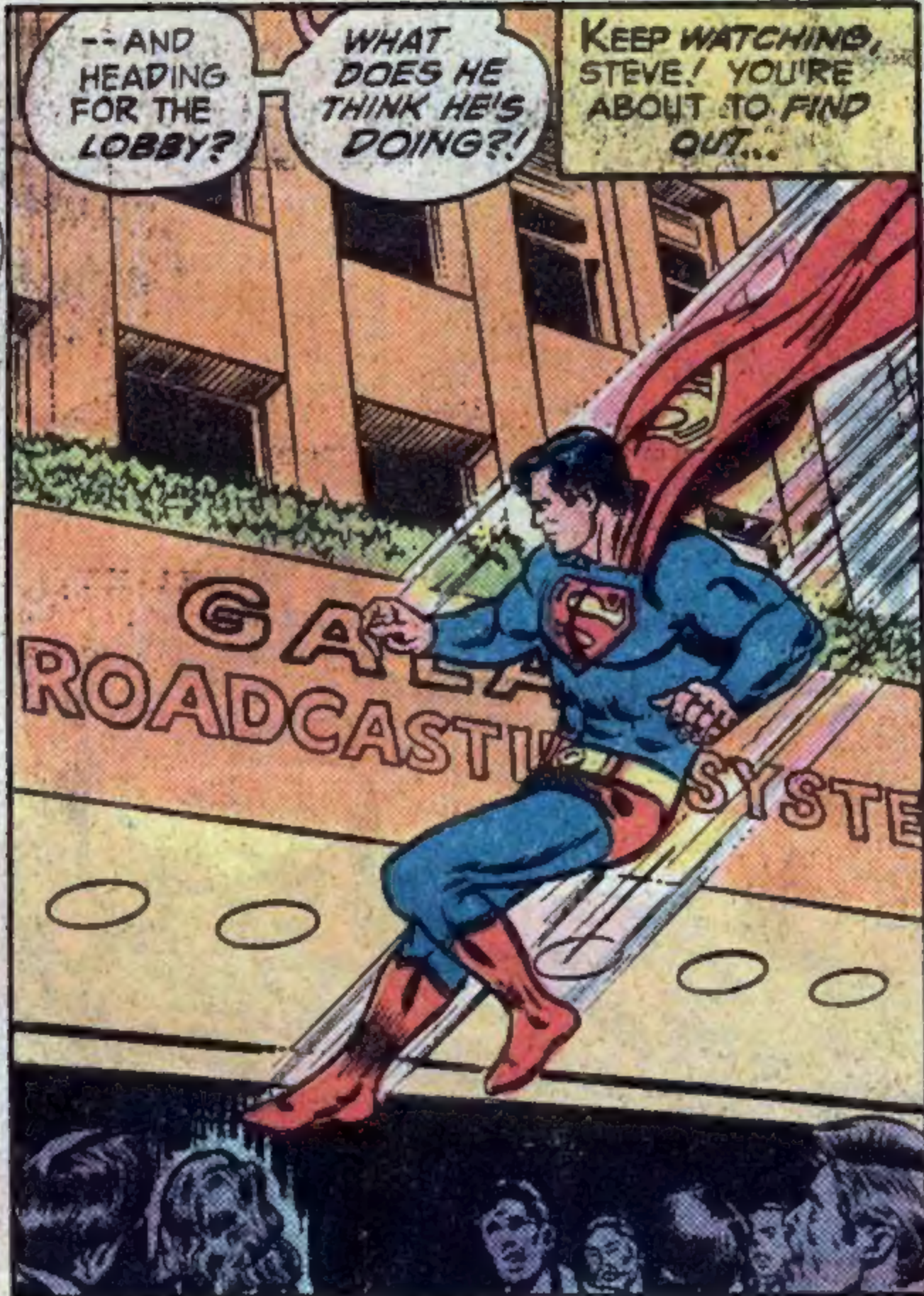
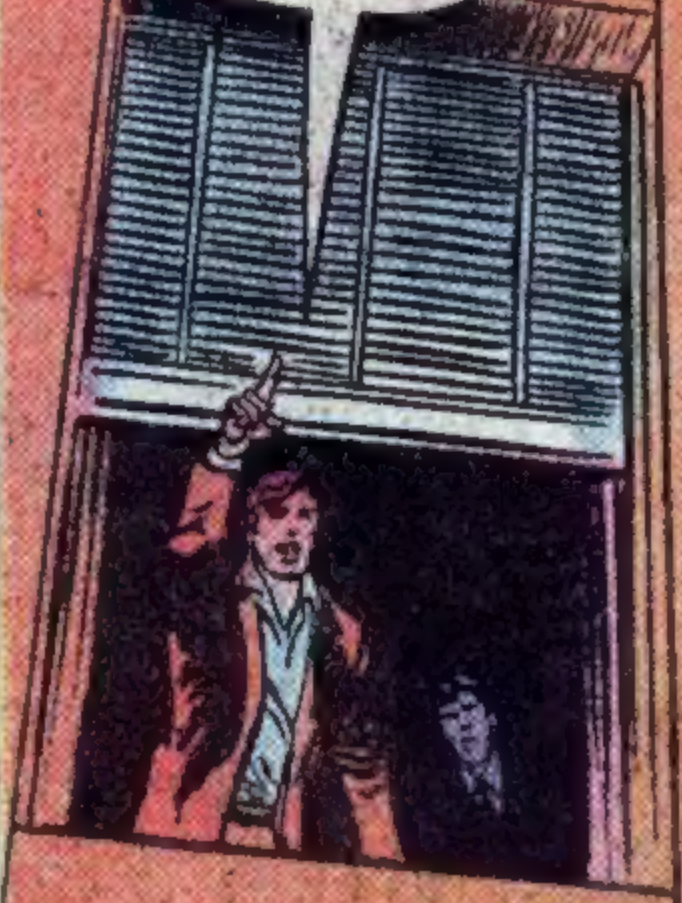


SECONDS LATER, AS THE ENTIRE STRUCTURE PLUNGES INTO PLUTONIAN DARKNESS...

HEY, THERE'S SUPERMAN! HE MUST'VE SEEN WHAT'S HAPPENED HERE, AND HE'S--

--HUH?

HE'S IGNORING US--



--AND HEADING FOR THE LOBBY?

WHAT DOES HE THINK HE'S DOING?!

KEEP WATCHING, STEVE! YOU'RE ABOUT TO FIND OUT...

...AND, BOY, ARE YOU GONNA BE SURPRISED!

I-I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! SUPER-GUY MUST BE GOING CRACKERS!



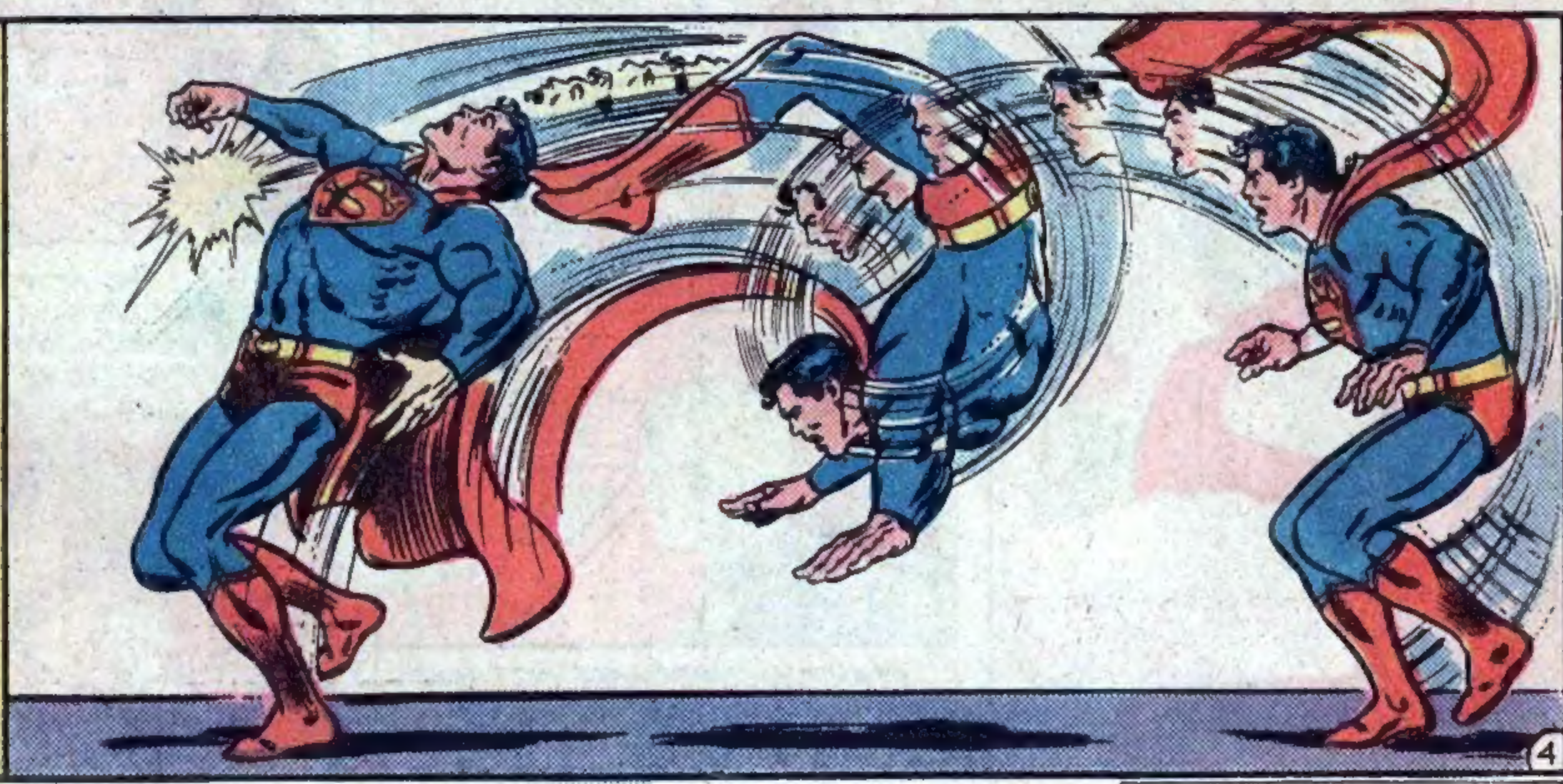
GOING CRACKERS? HE IS CRACKERS!

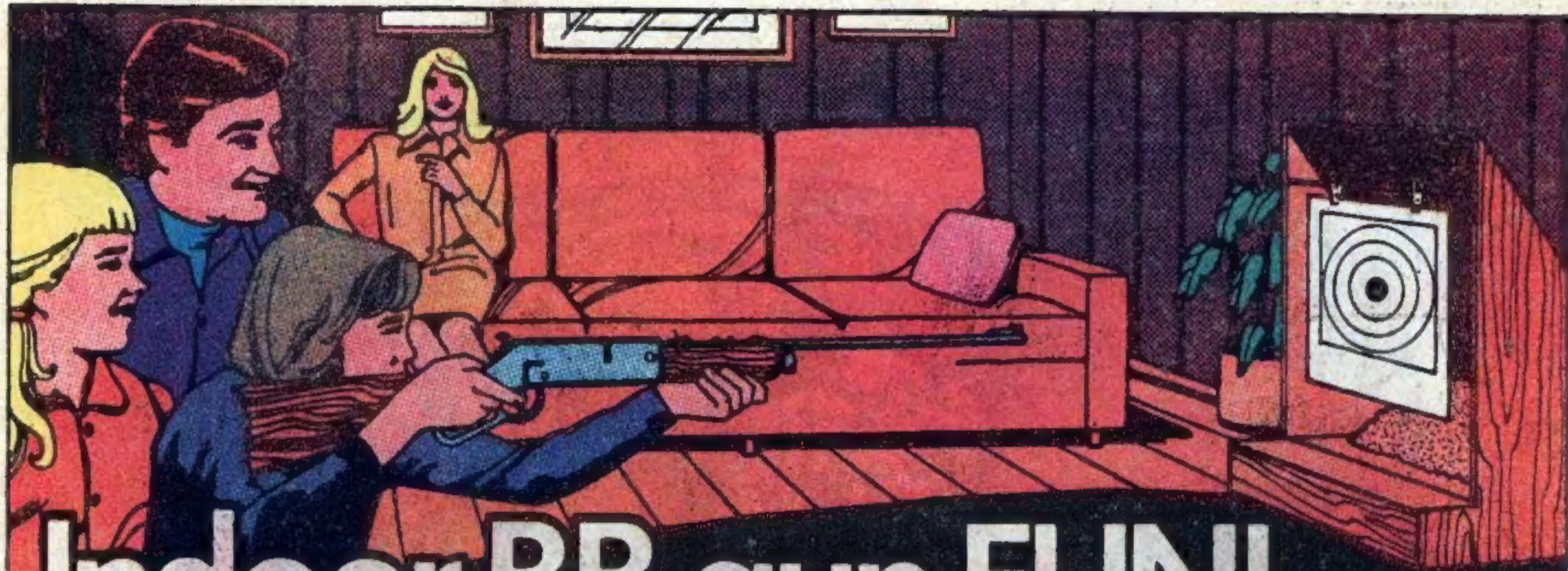
A WHOLE BUILDING LOSES ITS ELECTRICITY--

--AND HE SUDDENLY STARTS SHADOW-BOXING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE STREET!

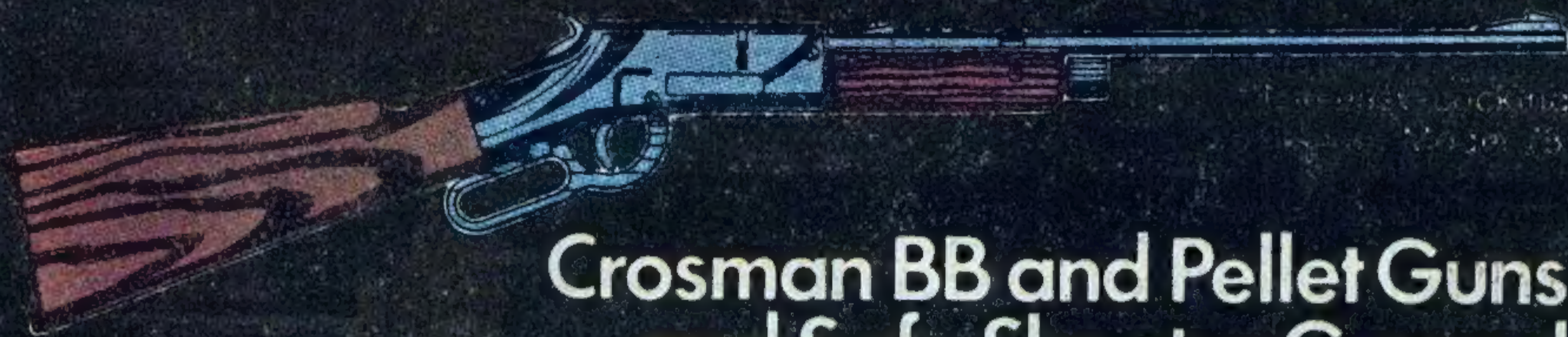


NOW HE'S DOING BACK-FLIPS, LIKE NADJA COMENECI! WHAT GIVES?!





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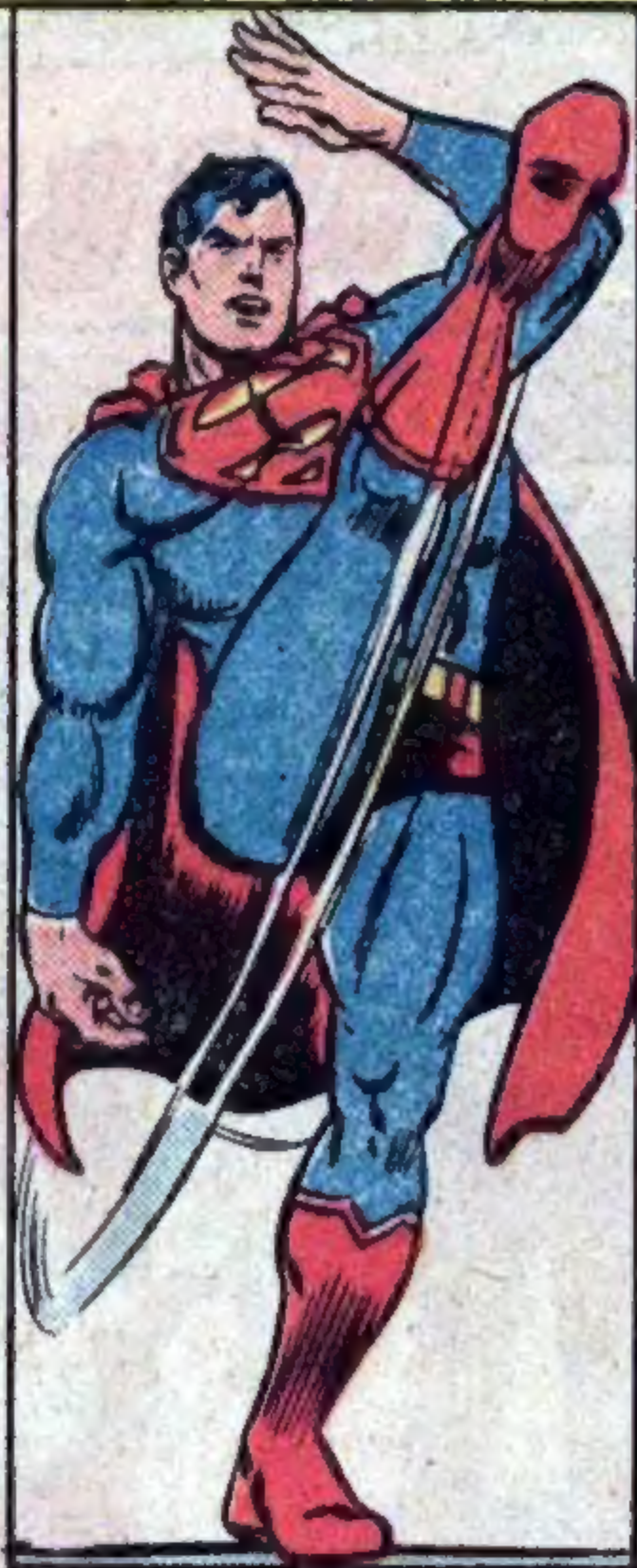
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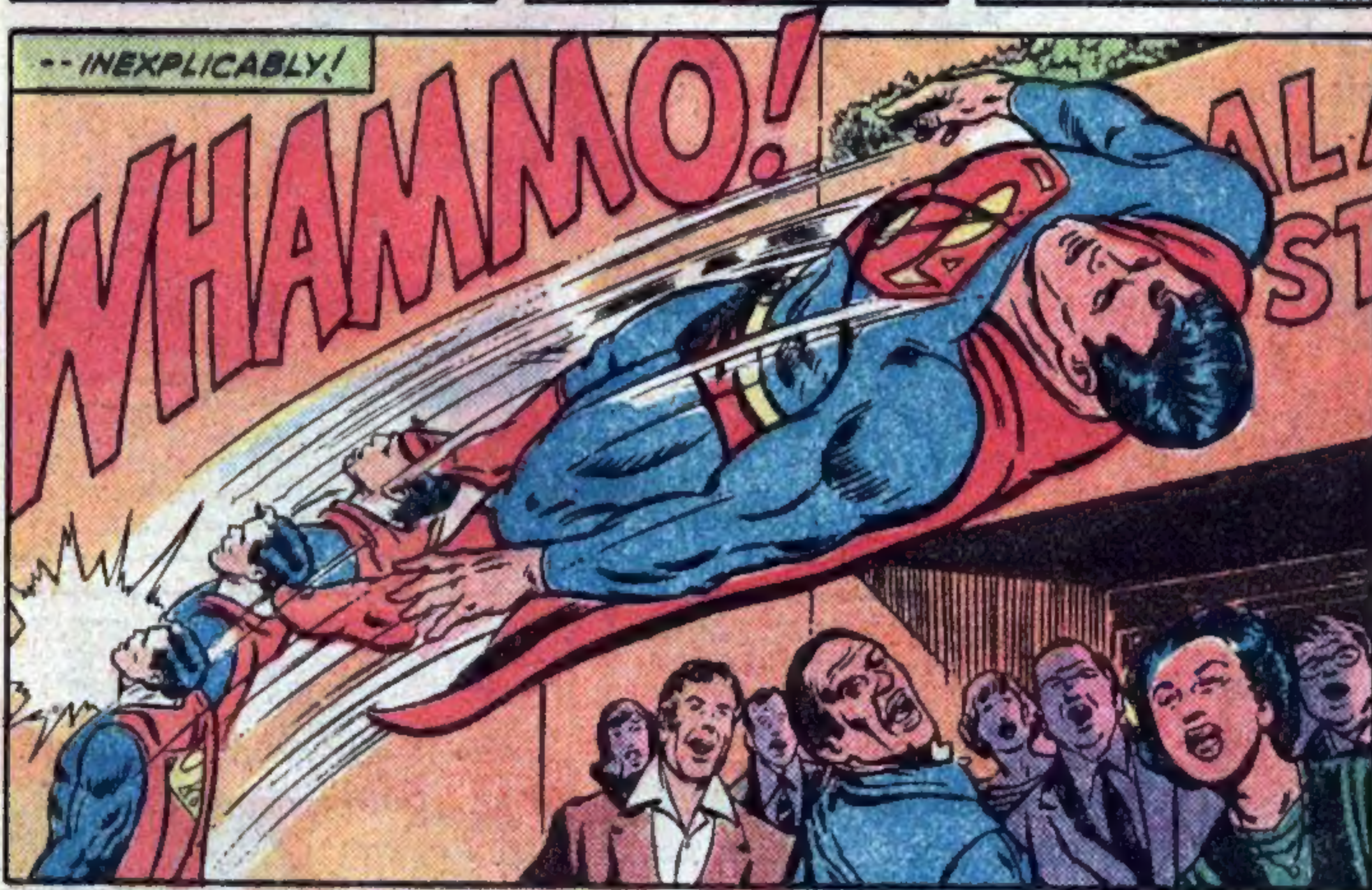
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AS A STUNNED AND INCREDULOUS CROWD WATCHES WITH GROWING DISMAY, THE MAN OF STEEL RUNS RAPIDLY THROUGH WHAT APPEARS TO BE A FULL SERIES OF EXERCISES, MOVING GRIMLY AND IN SILENCE...



THEN, WITH UNEXPECTED ABRUPTNESS, THE EXERCISES END--

-- INEXPLICABLY!



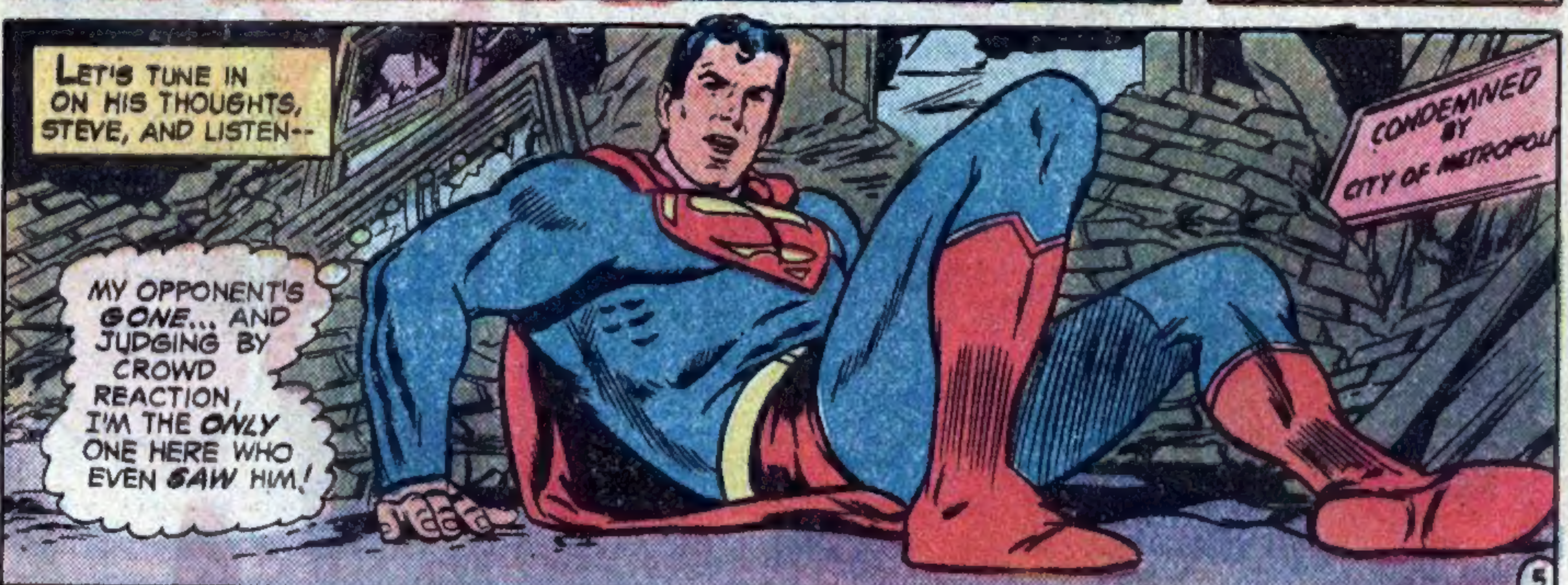
HOLY HANNAH! THE WAY SUPES FLEW BACKWARD JUST THEN--LIKE HE'D BEEN HIT--HARD!

AND THE SOUND! IT MIGHT'VE BEEN A THUNDERCLAP-- BUT THERE'S NOT A RAINCLOUD IN SIGHT!

I WONDER WHAT'S ON SUPERMAN'S MIND?

LET'S TUNE IN ON HIS THOUGHTS, STEVE, AND LISTEN--

MY OPPONENT'S GONE... AND JUDGING BY CROWD REACTION, I'M THE ONLY ONE HERE WHO EVEN SAW HIM!

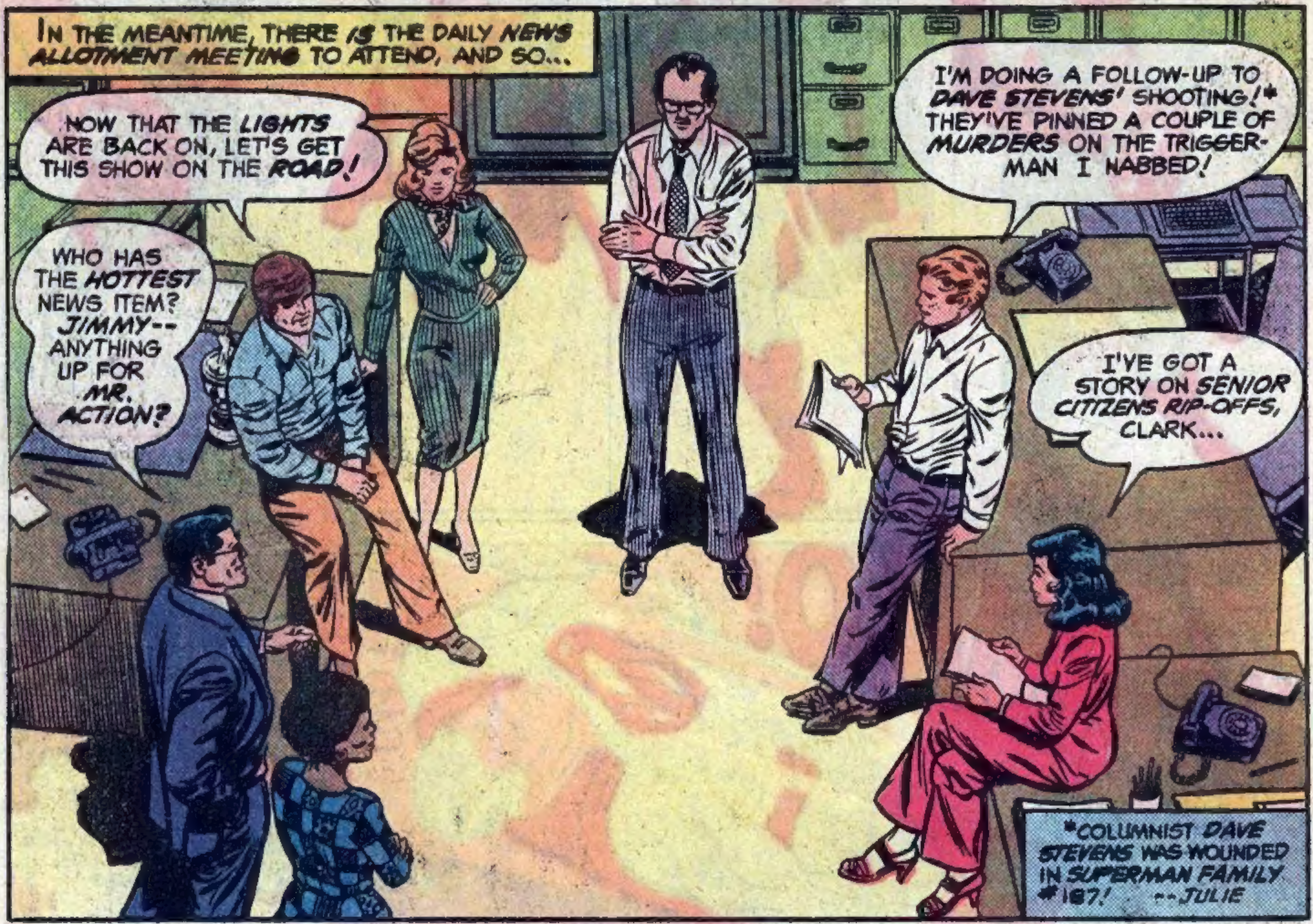




SO, FOR THE TIME BEING, HE'LL HAVE TO REMAIN MY SECRET... UNTIL I LEARN WHERE HE CAME FROM... AND WHAT HE WANTS!

RIGHT NOW... I'M LATE FOR THAT MEETING AT WGBS-TV!

WHO? WHERE? WHAT? PATIENCE, READER... ANSWERS WILL BE FORTHCOMING--AND SHORTLY...



IN THE MEANTIME, THERE IS THE DAILY NEWS ALLOTMENT MEETING TO ATTEND, AND SO...

NOW THAT THE LIGHTS ARE BACK ON, LET'S GET THIS SHOW ON THE ROAD!

WHO HAS THE HOTTEST NEWS ITEM? JIMMY-- ANYTHING UP FOR MR. ACTION?

I'M DOING A FOLLOW-UP TO DAVE STEVENS' SHOOTING! * THEY'VE PINNED A COUPLE OF MURDERS ON THE TRIGGER-MAN I NABBED!

I'VE GOT A STORY ON SENIOR CITIZENS RIP-OFFS, CLARK...

*COLUMNIST DAVE STEVENS WAS WOUNDED IN SUPERMAN FAMILY #187! --JULIE



AND I HAVE A SQUIB ABOUT THE FOOD-PACKING PLANT ACROSS THE BAY, SEEMS THEY'VE BEEN SHORT-COUNTING!

SOUNDS GOOD, LANA. I LIKE YOUR PIECE, TOO, LOIS. WORK THEM UP, OKAY?

STEVE? ANYTHING SPECIAL ON THE SPORTS FRONT?



TALK ABOUT YOUR HOT FLASHES, CLARKIE-BOY! SPORTS WEEKLY NAMED ME SPORTSCASTER OF THE YEAR--EVEN GAVE ME THIS SPIFFY TROPHY!

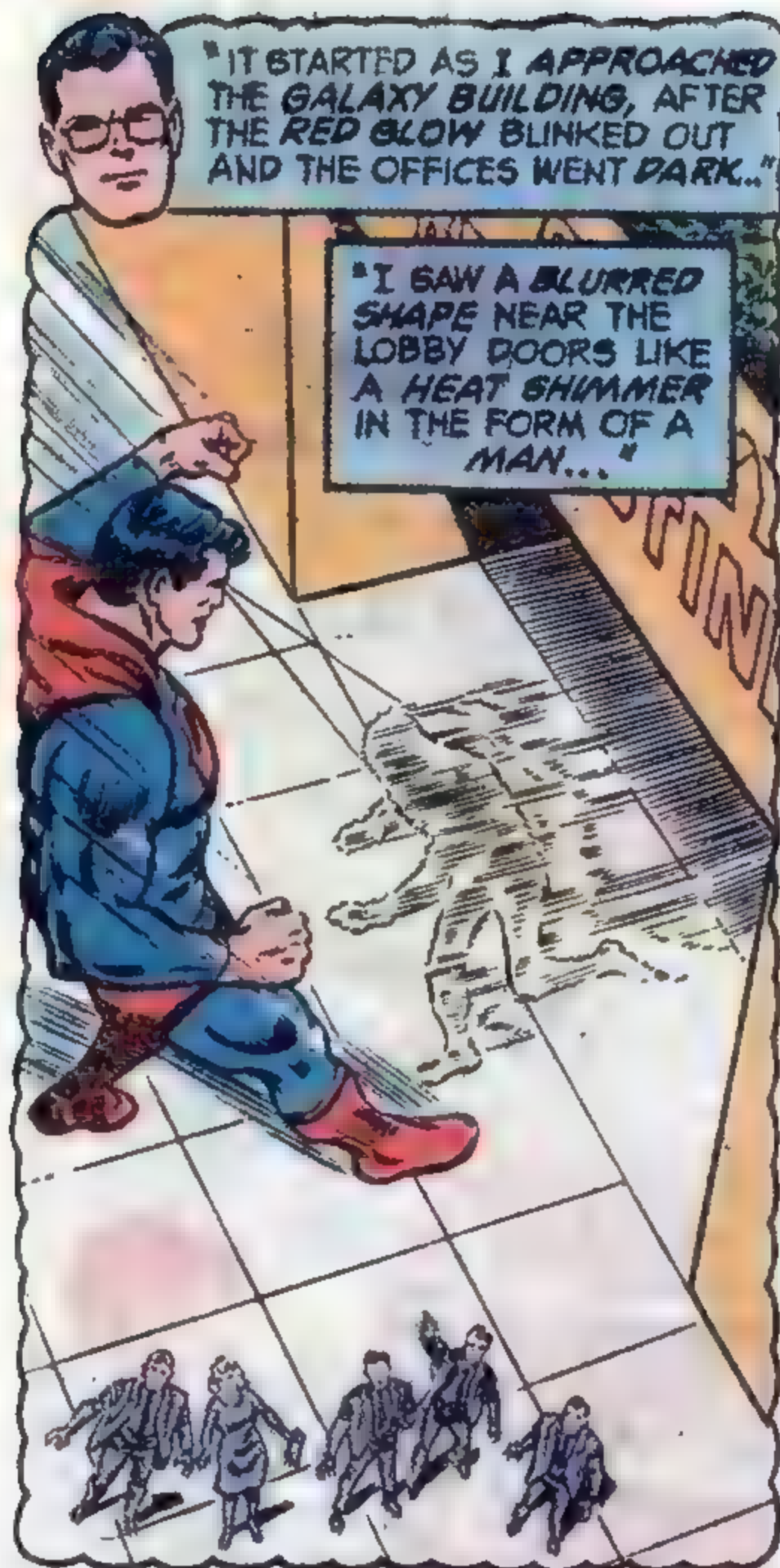
WHAT SAY I DO A FEATURE ALL ABOUT MY CAREER--HOW I GOT TO BE SO GREAT, AND WHY EVERYONE IS ALWAYS--



THIS IS A NEWS SHOW, STEVE --NOT A PODIUM! DO YOUR FEATURE, BUT KEEP IT SHORT, LEAVING SOME TIME FOR THE SPORTS RESULTS!

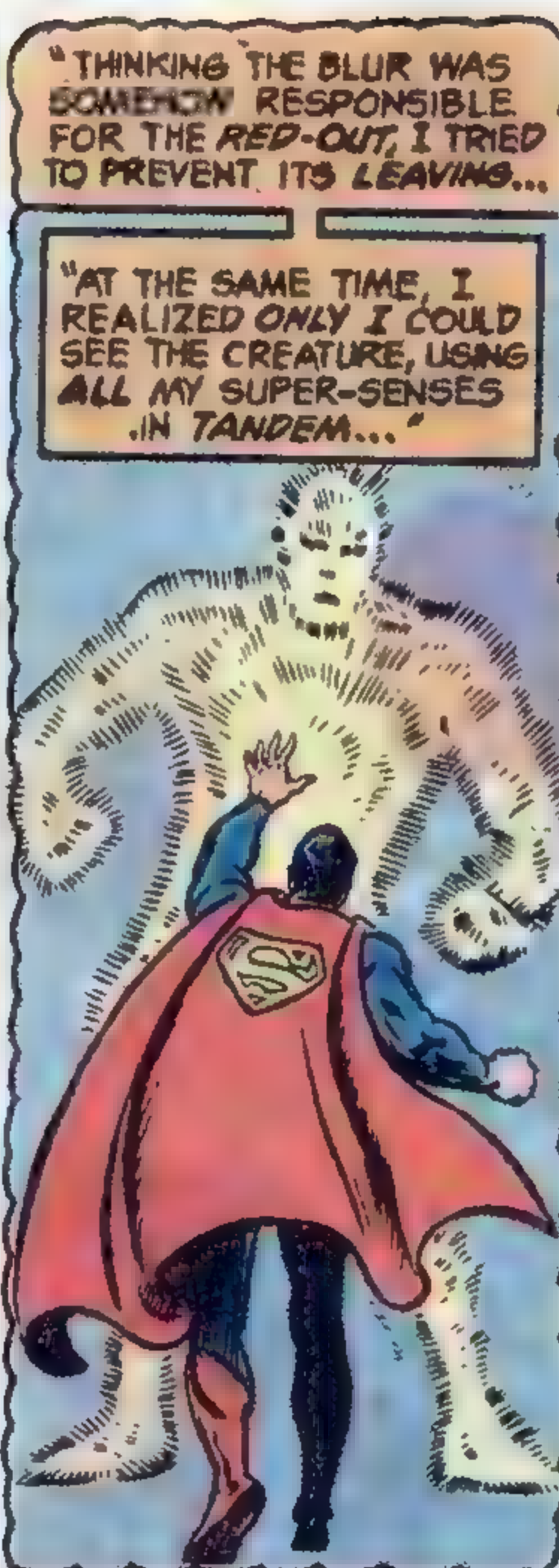
MELBA, HOW ABOUT YOU--

WISH I COULD KEEP MY MIND ON THIS MEETING... BUT I KEEP SEEING THAT STRANGE GIANT...



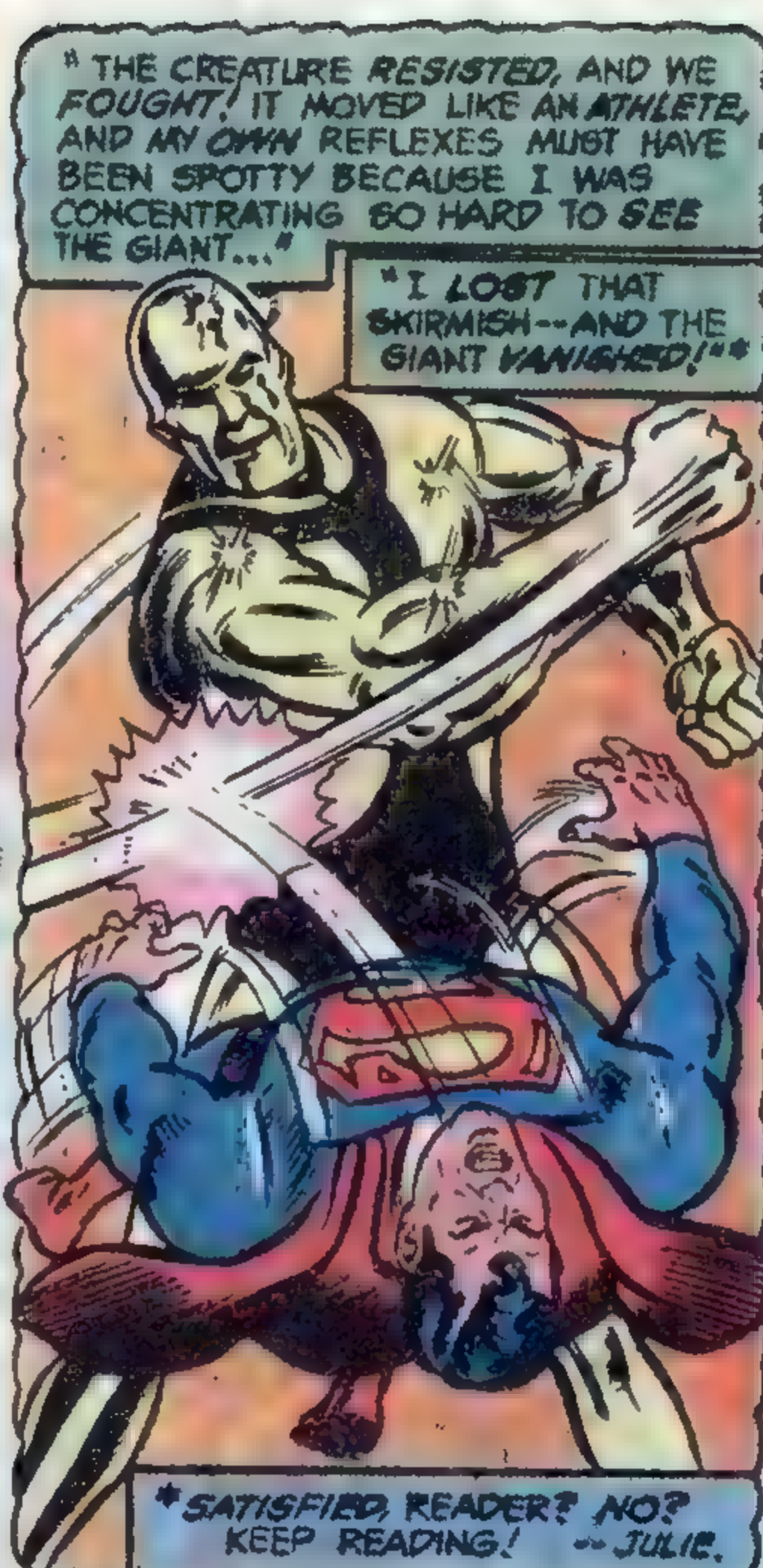
"IT STARTED AS I APPROACHED THE GALAXY BUILDING, AFTER THE RED GLOW BLINKED OUT AND THE OFFICES WENT DARK..."

"I SAW A BLURRED SHAPE NEAR THE LOBBY DOORS LIKE A HEAT SHIMMER IN THE FORM OF A MAN..."



"THINKING THE BLUR WAS SOMEHOW RESPONSIBLE FOR THE RED-OUT, I TRIED TO PREVENT ITS LEAVING..."

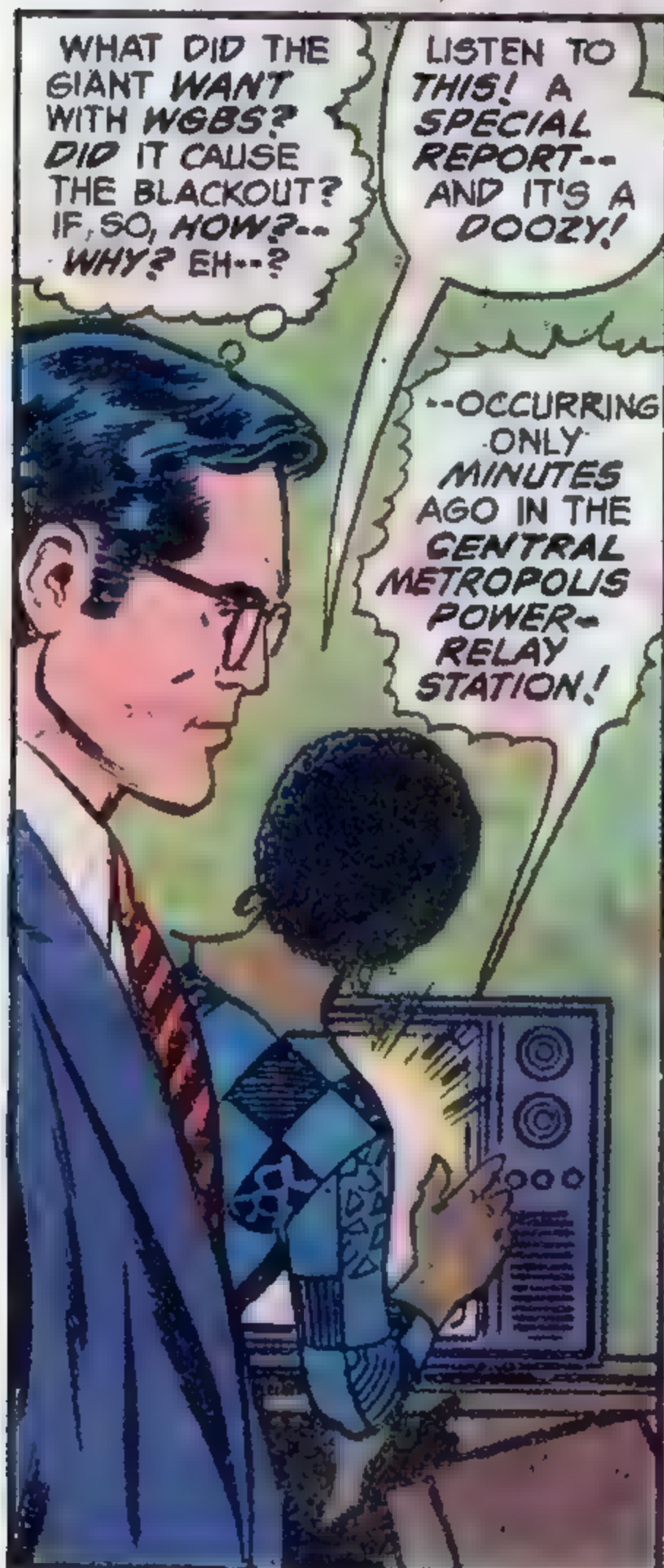
"AT THE SAME TIME, I REALIZED ONLY I COULD SEE THE CREATURE, USING ALL MY SUPER-SENSES IN TANDEM..."



"THE CREATURE RESISTED, AND WE FOUGHT! IT MOVED LIKE AN ATHLETE, AND MY OWN REFLEXES MUST HAVE BEEN SPOTTY BECAUSE I WAS CONCENTRATING SO HARD TO SEE THE GIANT..."

"I LOST THAT SKIRMISH--AND THE GIANT VANISHED!"

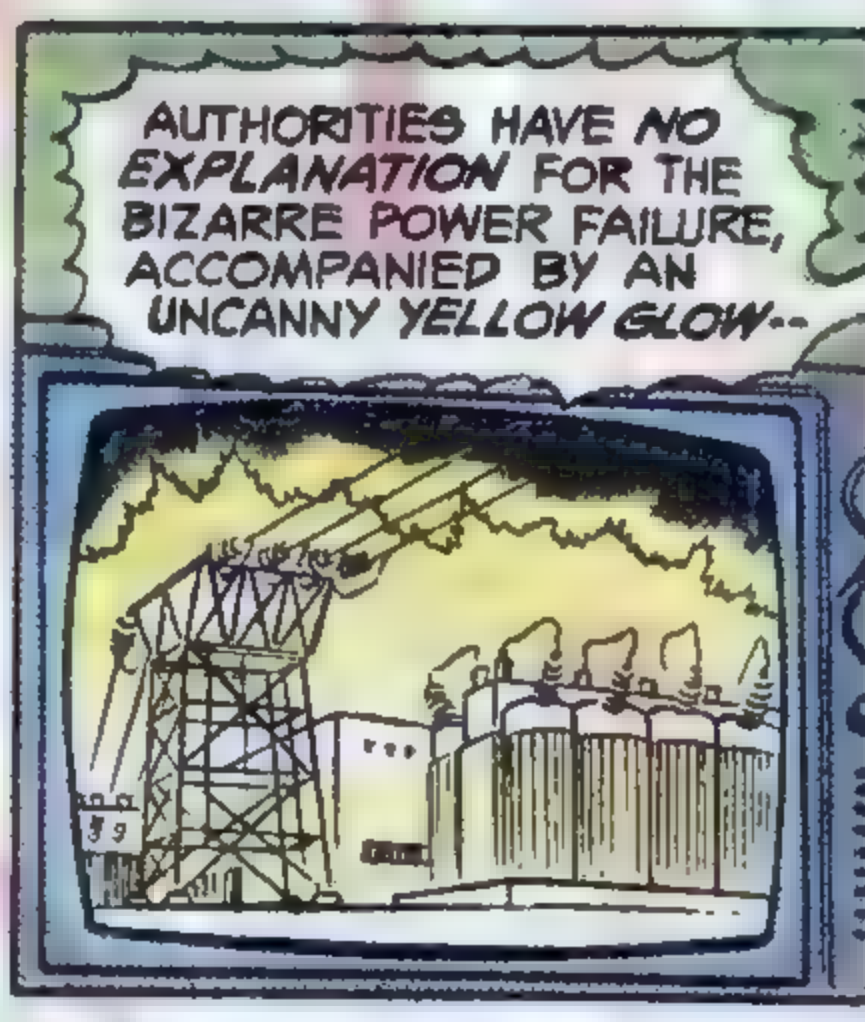
*SATISFIED, READER? NO? KEEP READING! --JULIE.



WHAT DID THE GIANT WANT WITH WGBS? DID IT CAUSE THE BLACKOUT? IF, SO, HOW?-- WHY? EH--?

LISTEN TO THIS! A SPECIAL REPORT-- AND IT'S A DOOZY!

--OCCURRING ONLY MINUTES AGO IN THE CENTRAL METROPOLIS POWER-RELAY STATION!



AUTHORITIES HAVE NO EXPLANATION FOR THE BIZARRE POWER FAILURE, ACCOMPANIED BY AN UNCANNY YELLOW GLOW--

--AND THEY DISCOUNT SPECULATION TYING THIS FAILURE TO A SIMILAR BLACKOUT OF THE GALAXY BUILDING EARLIER THIS MORNING!



GANG, THAT'S A STORY I'M ASSIGNING MYSELF! TELL MR. EDGE I'LL BE BACK FOR THE AFTERNOON WRAP-UP--

I'LL TAG ALONG, CLARKIE-BOY!

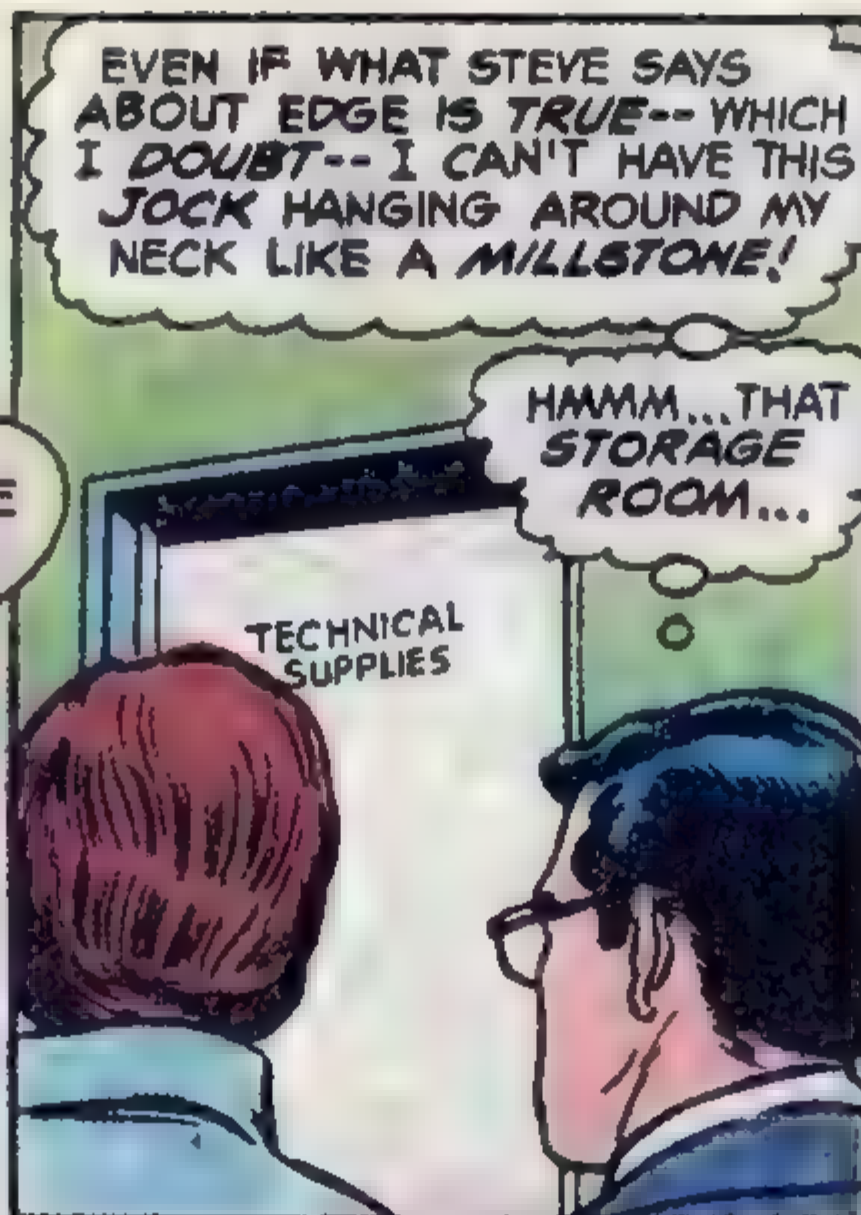
YOU CAN USE SOME EXPERT HELP WITH THOSE TRICKY MINI-CAMS!



THANKS FOR THE OFFER, STEVE... BUT I CAN HANDLE--

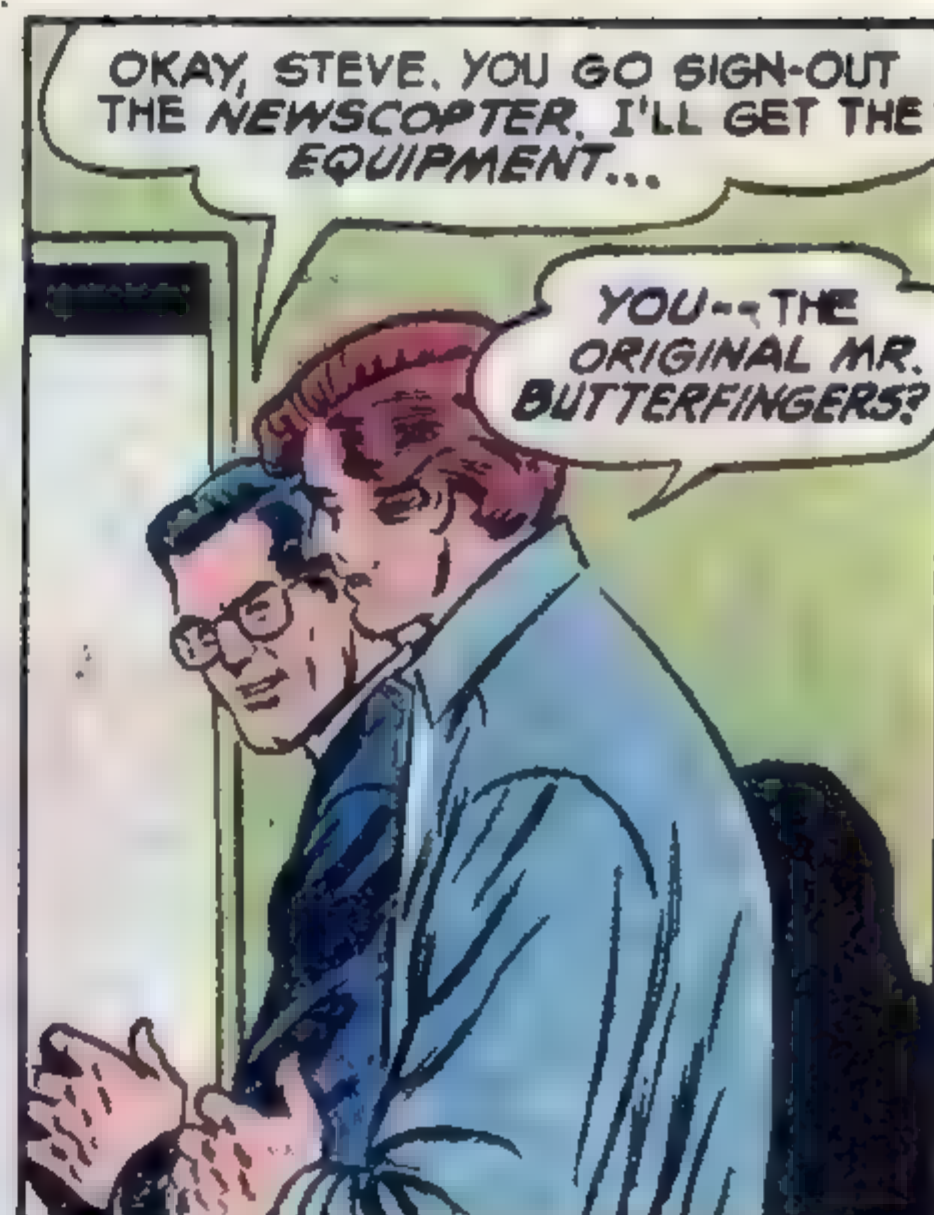
--OR FUMBLE THE JOB! I WAS TALKING TO THE BOSS-MAN--

--AND HE TOLD ME TO RUN INTERFERENCE FOR YOU!



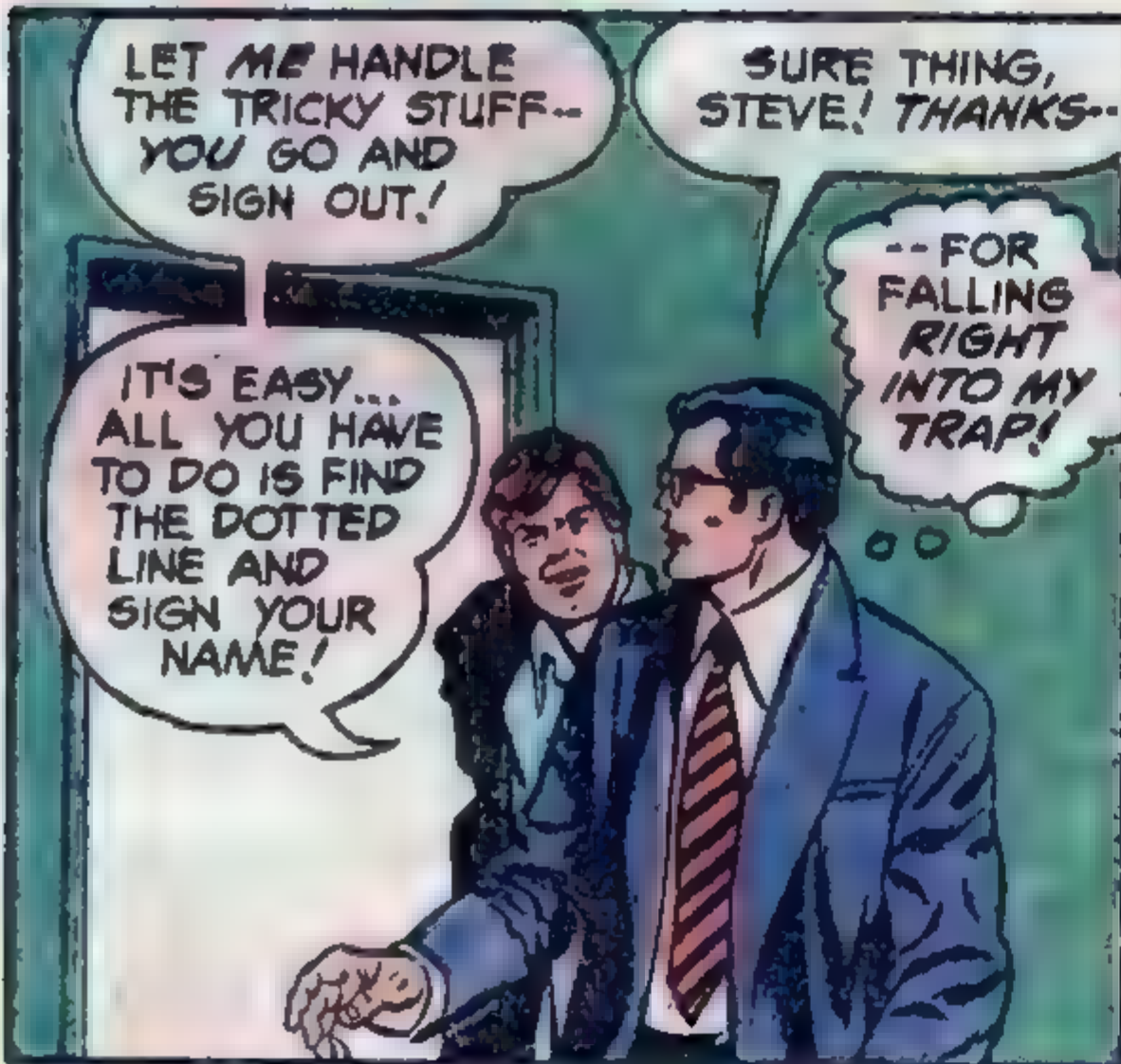
EVEN IF WHAT STEVE SAYS ABOUT EDGE IS TRUE-- WHICH I DOUBT-- I CAN'T HAVE THIS JOCK HANGING AROUND MY NECK LIKE A MILLSTONE!

HMMM... THAT STORAGE ROOM...



OKAY, STEVE, YOU GO SIGN-OUT THE NEWSCOPTER, I'LL GET THE EQUIPMENT...

YOU--THE ORIGINAL MR. BUTTERFINGERS?

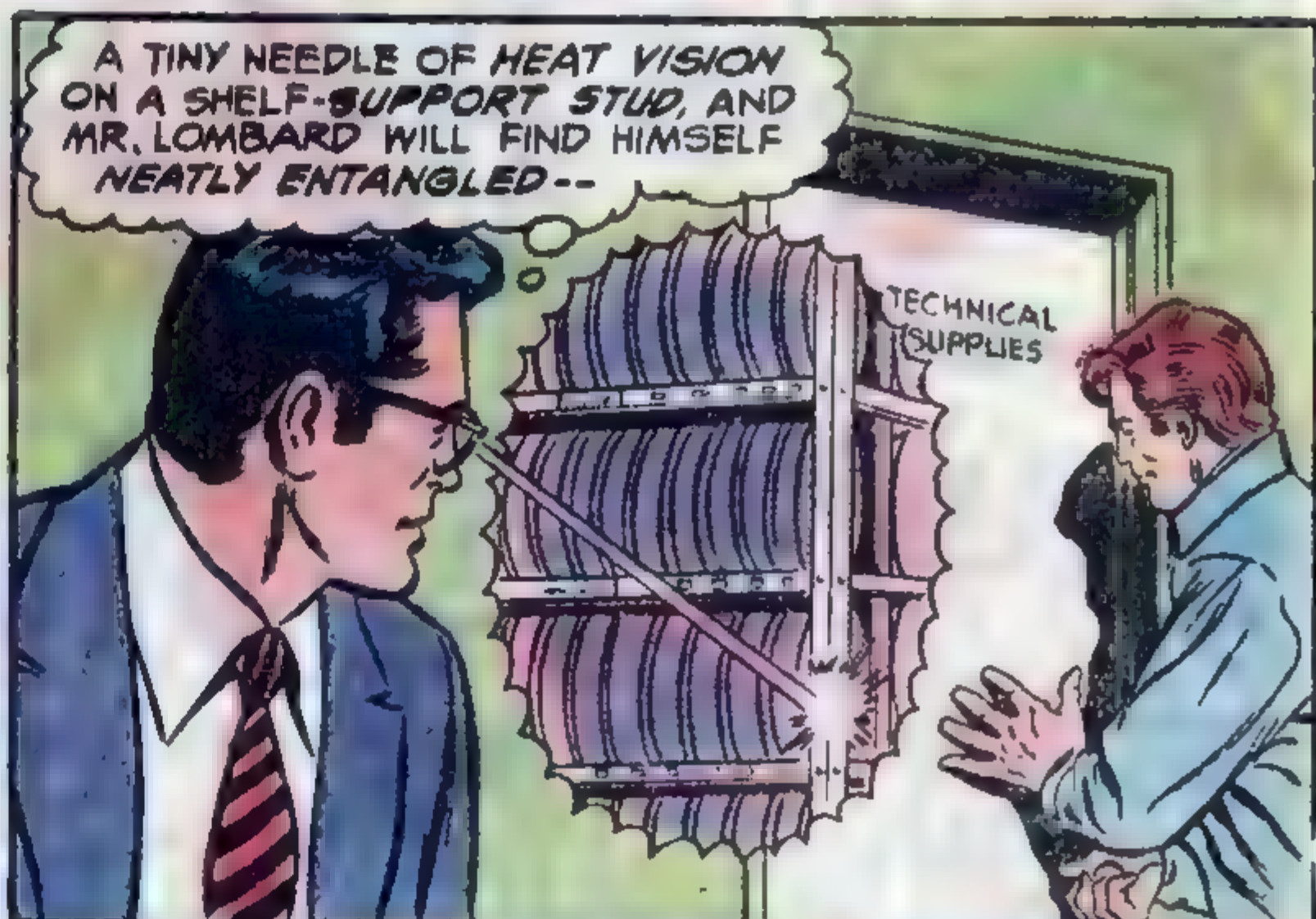


LET ME HANDLE THE TRICKY STUFF-- YOU GO AND SIGN OUT!

SURE THING, STEVE! THANKS--

--FOR FALLING RIGHT INTO MY TRAP!

IT'S EASY... ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS FIND THE DOTTED LINE AND SIGN YOUR NAME!



A TINY NEEDLE OF HEAT VISION ON A SHELF-SUPPORT STUD, AND MR. LOMBARD WILL FIND HIMSELF NEATLY ENTANGLED--

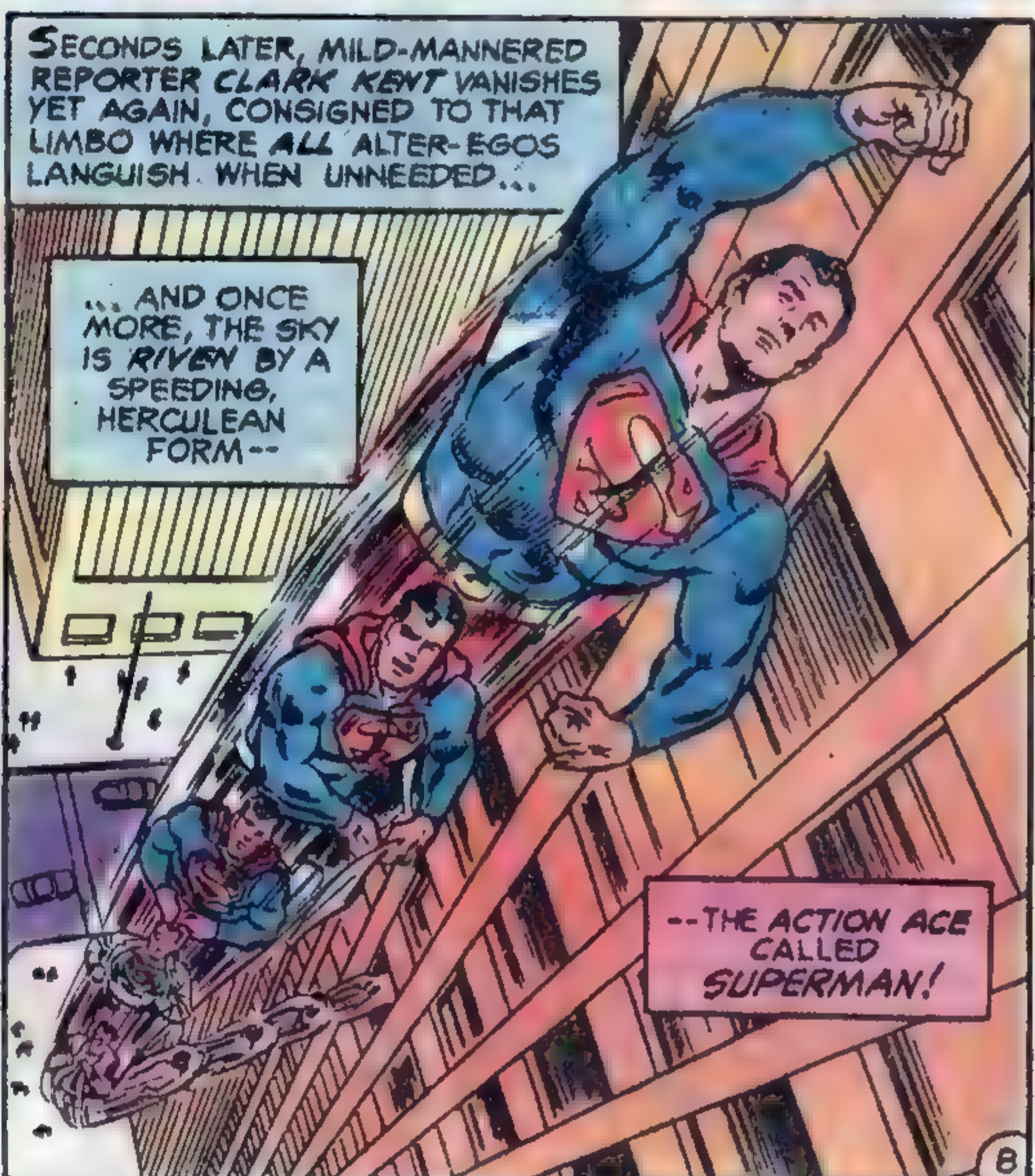


--GIVING ME PLENTY OF TIME FOR A GETAWAY!"

GREAK!

BOY, THAT KENT... WHAT A CHUMPOLA!

HOW A GUY COULD EVER GET TO BE SUCH A SCHLEMIEL, I'LL NEVER KNOW--!



SECONDS LATER, MILD-MANNERED REPORTER CLARK KENT VANISHES YET AGAIN, CONSIGNED TO THAT LIMBO WHERE ALL ALTER-EGOS LANGUISH WHEN UNNEEDED...

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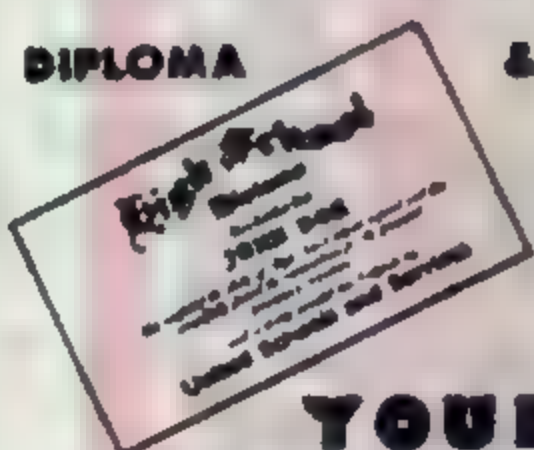
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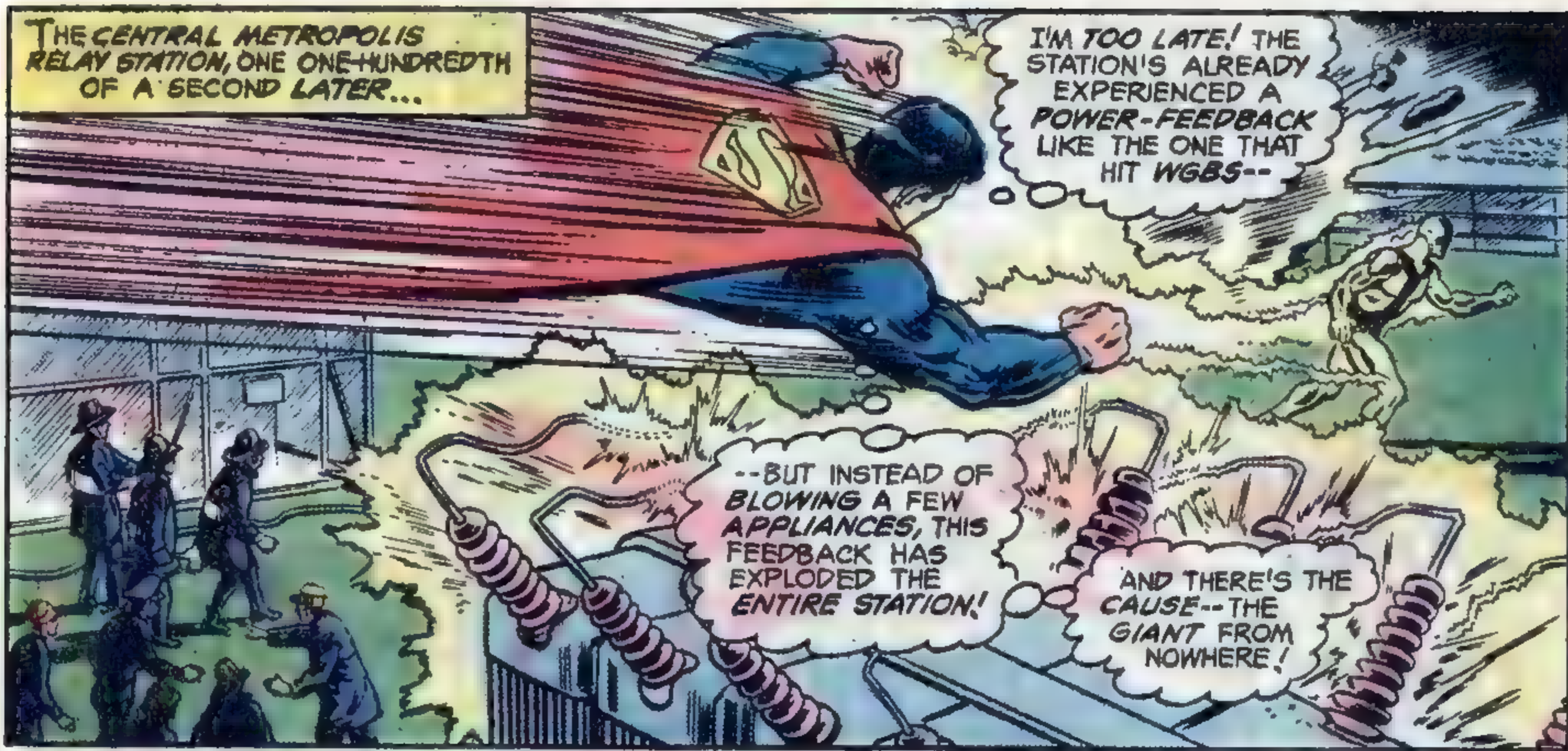
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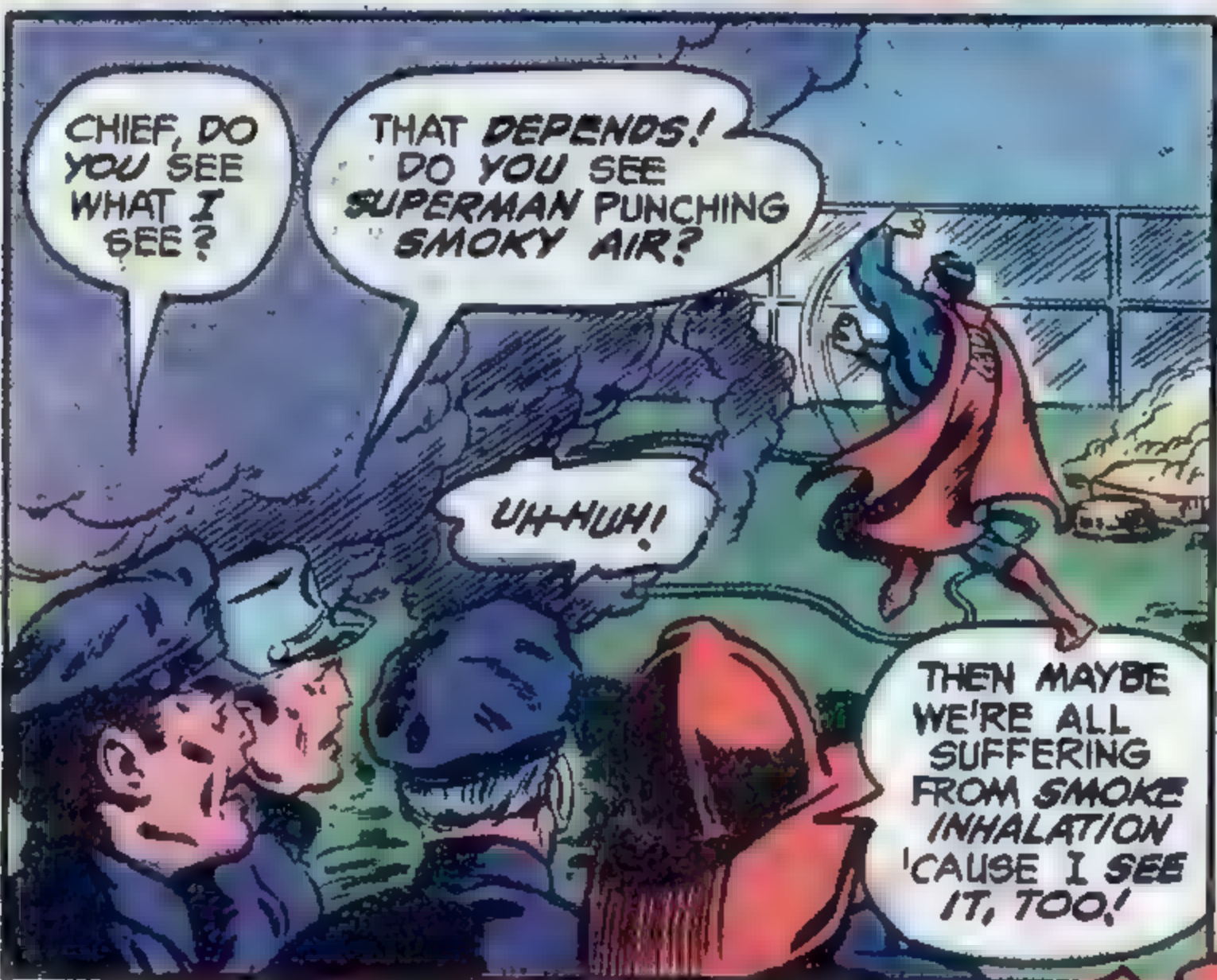


THE CENTRAL METROPOLIS RELAY STATION, ONE ONE-HUNDREDTH OF A SECOND LATER...

I'M TOO LATE! THE STATION'S ALREADY EXPERIENCED A POWER-FEEDBACK LIKE THE ONE THAT HIT WGSS--

--BUT INSTEAD OF BLOWING A FEW APPLIANCES, THIS FEEDBACK HAS EXPLODED THE ENTIRE STATION!

AND THERE'S THE CAUSE--THE GIANT FROM NOWHERE!

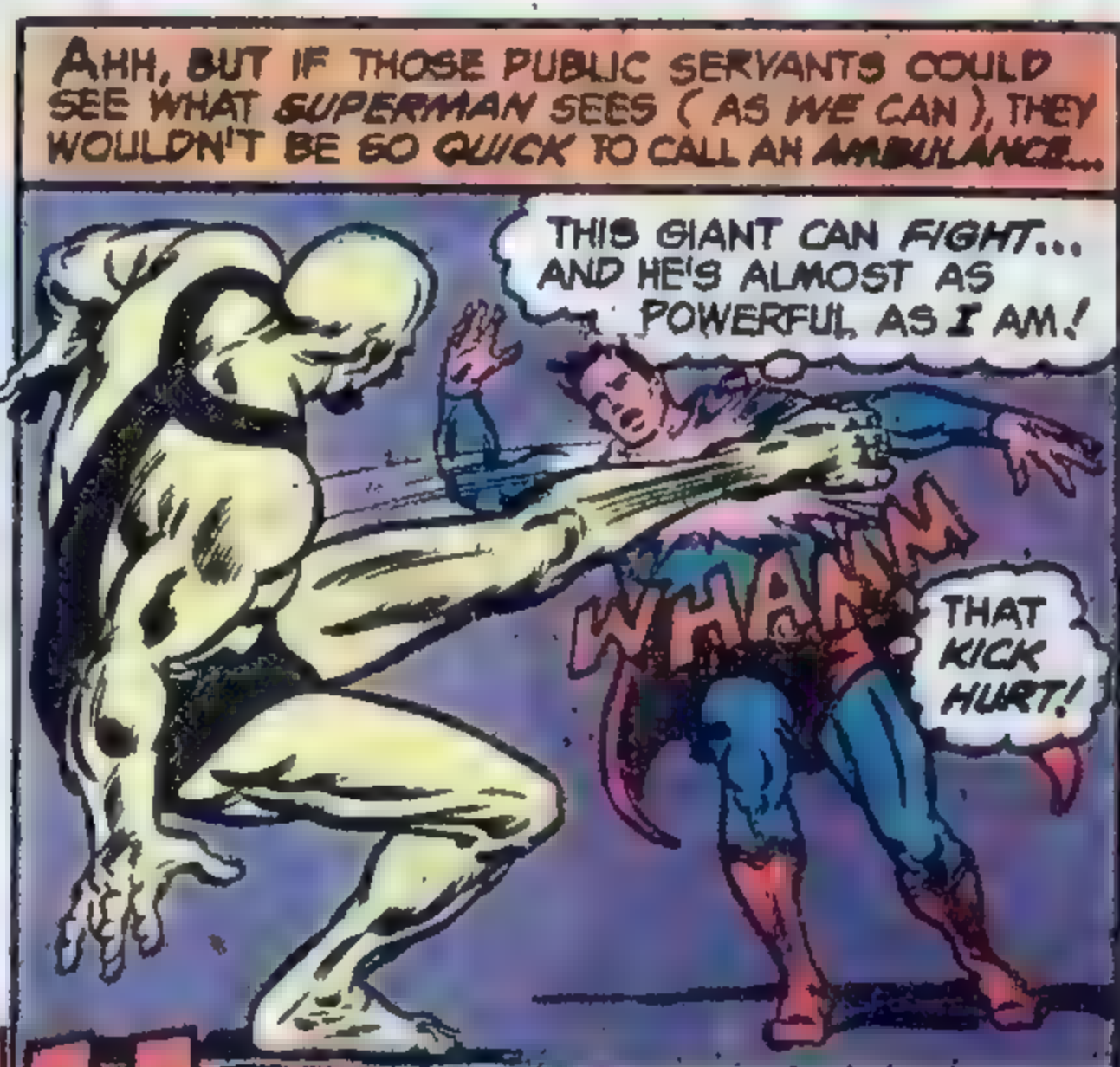


CHIEF, DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE?

THAT DEPENDS! DO YOU SEE SUPERMAN PUNCHING SMOKY AIR?

UH-HUH!

THEN MAYBE WE'RE ALL SUFFERING FROM SMOKE INHALATION 'CAUSE I SEE IT, TOO!



AHH, BUT IF THOSE PUBLIC SERVANTS COULD SEE WHAT SUPERMAN SEES (AS WE CAN), THEY WOULDN'T BE SO QUICK TO CALL AN AMBULANCE...

THIS GIANT CAN FIGHT... AND HE'S ALMOST AS POWERFUL AS I AM!

WHAM!

THAT KICK HURT!



LET'S SEE IF HE CAN TAKE IT AS WELL AS GIVE IT OUT!

SHAWHOOM!

WHAAAAGG

WELL NOW! IT SEEMS I'VE MADE HIM ANGRY! I GUESS THAT'S JUST TOO BAD!

ANGRY OR NOT,
HE'S GOT FAST
REACTIONS! LIKE
A TRAINED SOLDIER
-- OR ATHLETE!

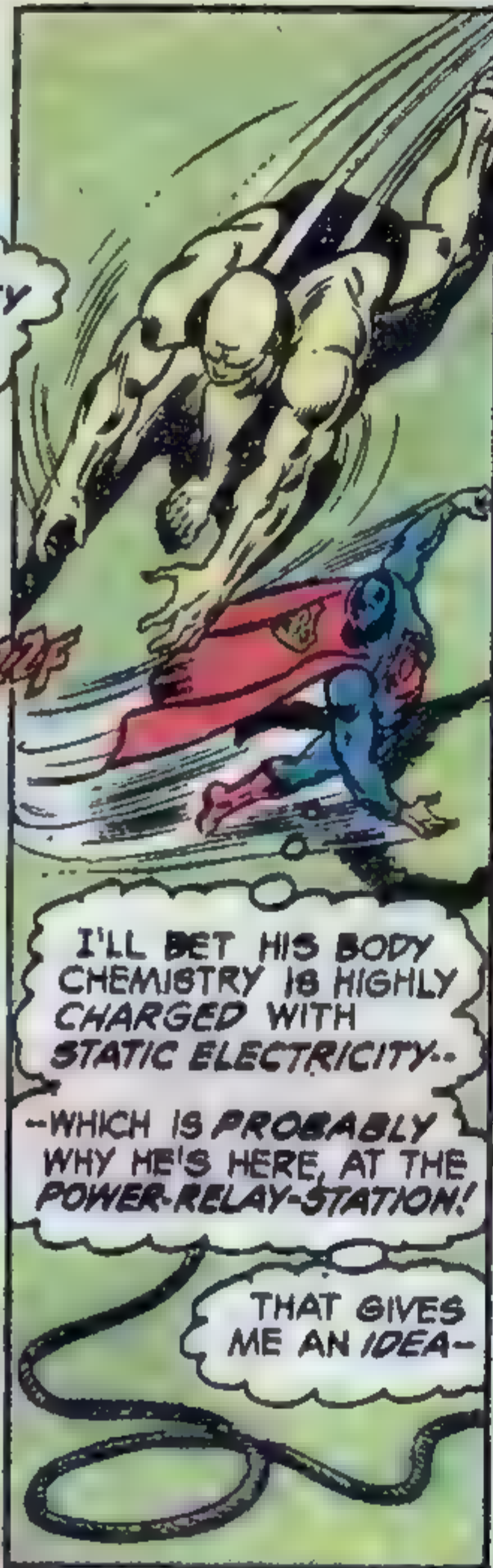
EH? GIVING OFF A
BURST OF ELECTRICITY
AS HE CHOPS THAT
CHUNK OF WALL?!



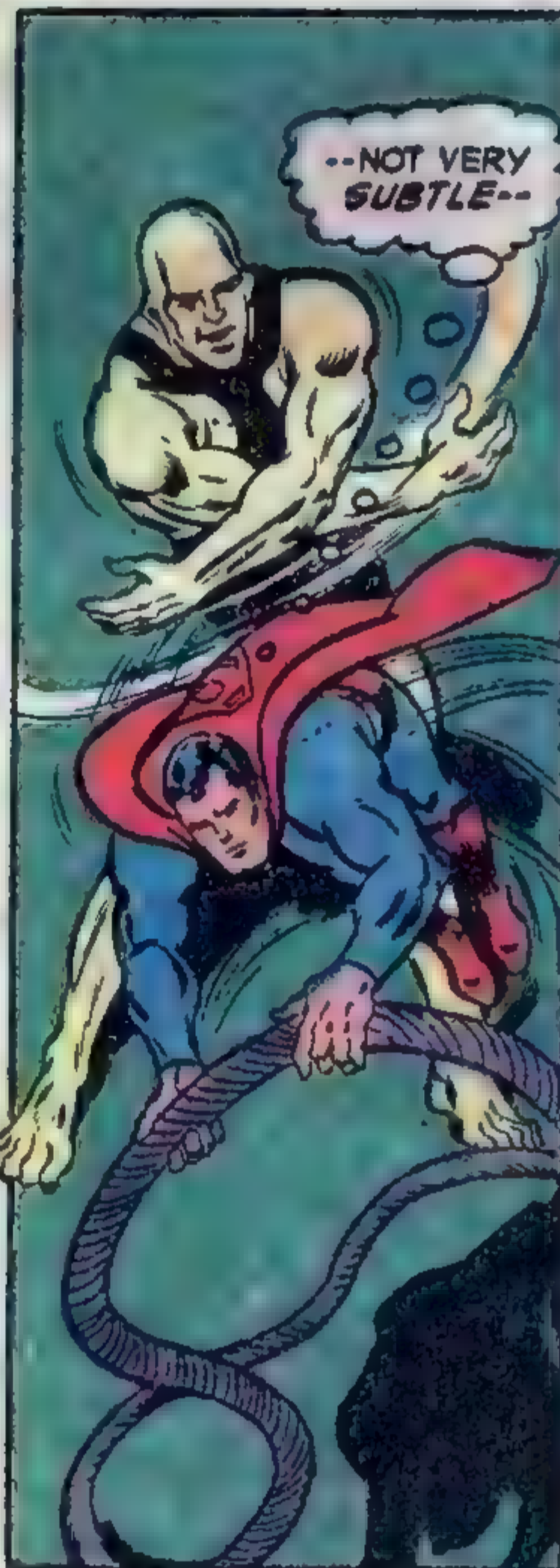
I'LL BET HIS BODY
CHEMISTRY IS HIGHLY
CHARGED WITH
STATIC ELECTRICITY--

--WHICH IS PROBABLY
WHY HE'S HERE, AT THE
POWER-RELAY-STATION!

THAT GIVES
ME AN IDEA--

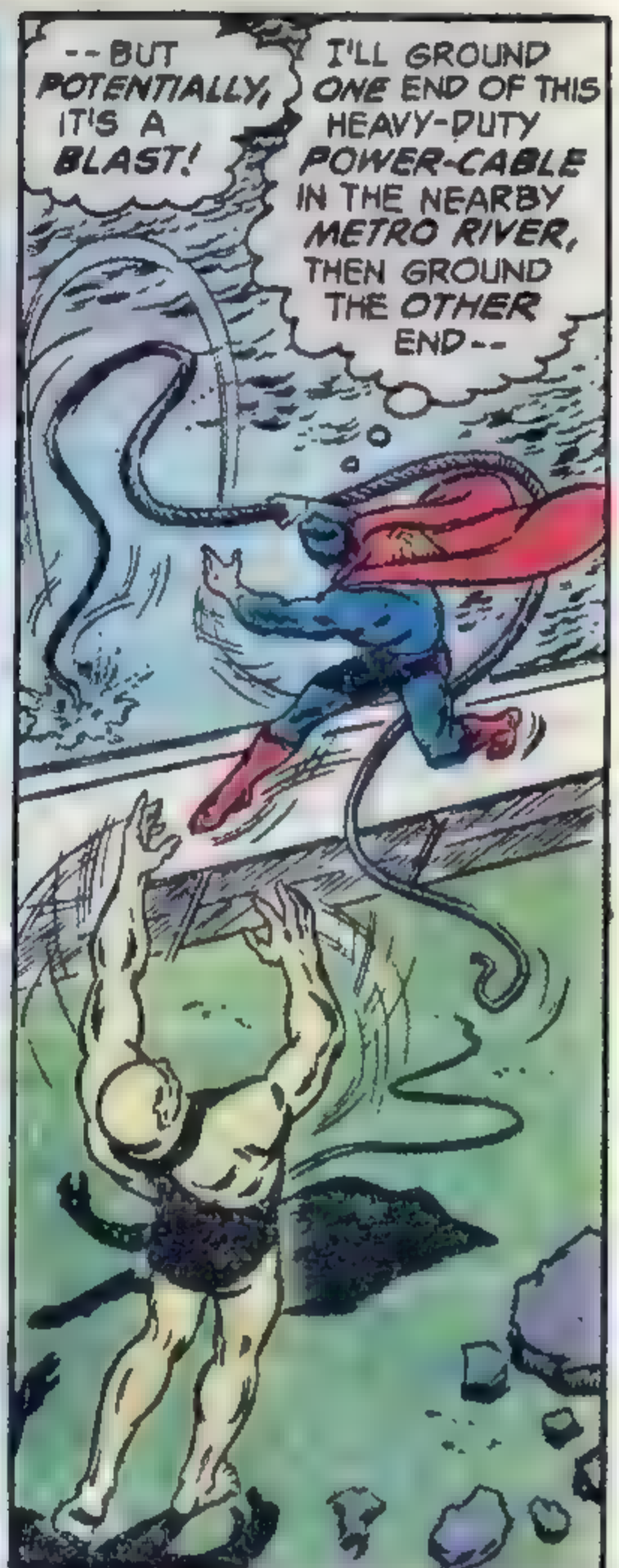


--NOT VERY
SUBTLE--



-- BUT
POTENTIALLY,
IT'S A
BLAST!

I'LL GROUND
ONE END OF THIS
HEAVY-DUTY
POWER-CABLE
IN THE NEARBY
METRO RIVER,
THEN GROUND
THE OTHER
END--



--IN THIS
OVER-CHARGED
GIANT!

ONE WELL-DESERVED
SHORT CIRCUIT, COMING
RIGHT THIS WAAAAAY!



IT HAPPENS IN A
FRACTION IN A
SECOND: JOINED
BY A SPUTTERING
HIGH-INTENSITY
ELECTRICAL ARC,
THE MAN OF STEEL
AND THE ALIEN
GIANT BECOME--
FOR AN INSTANT--
ONE MIND--

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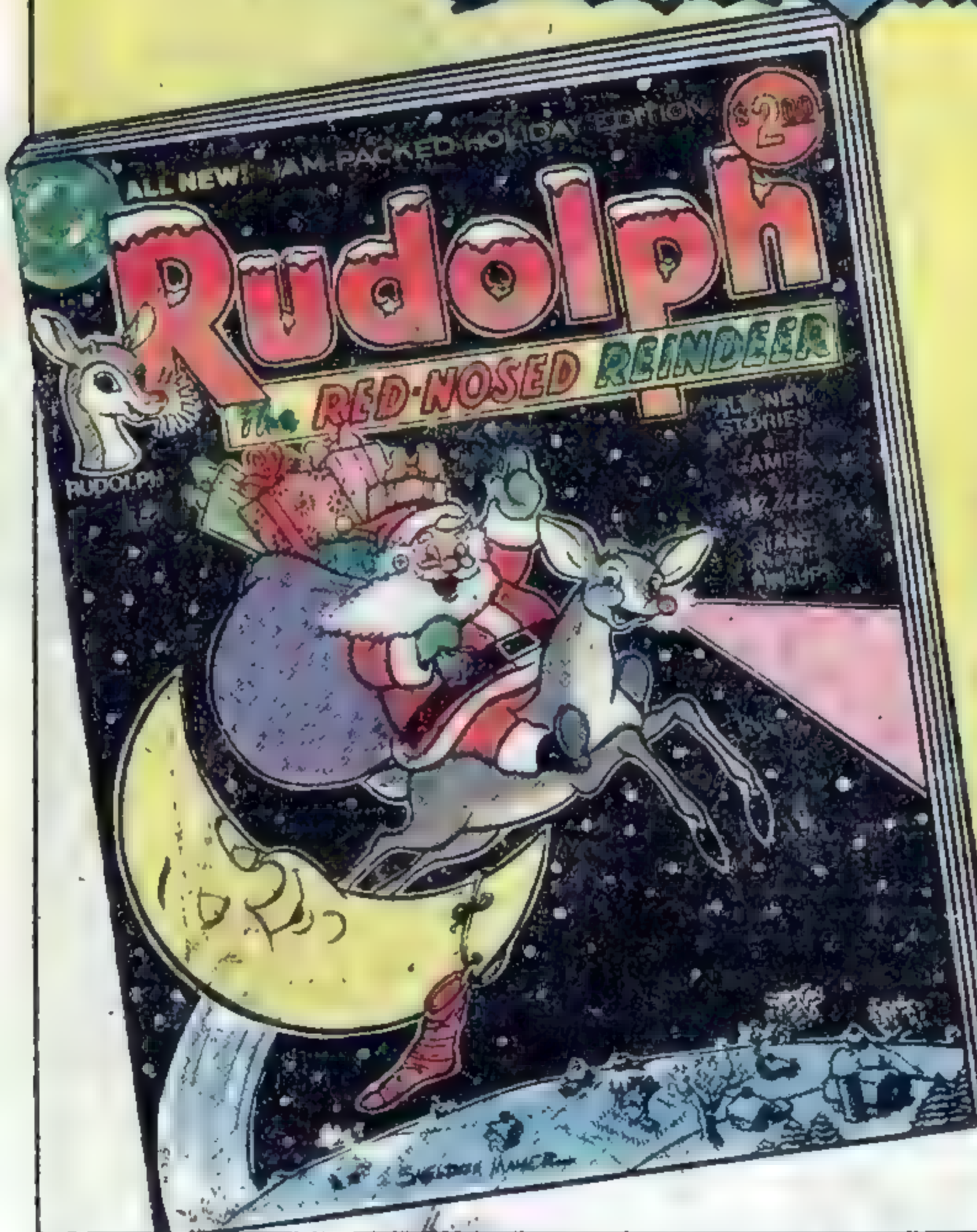
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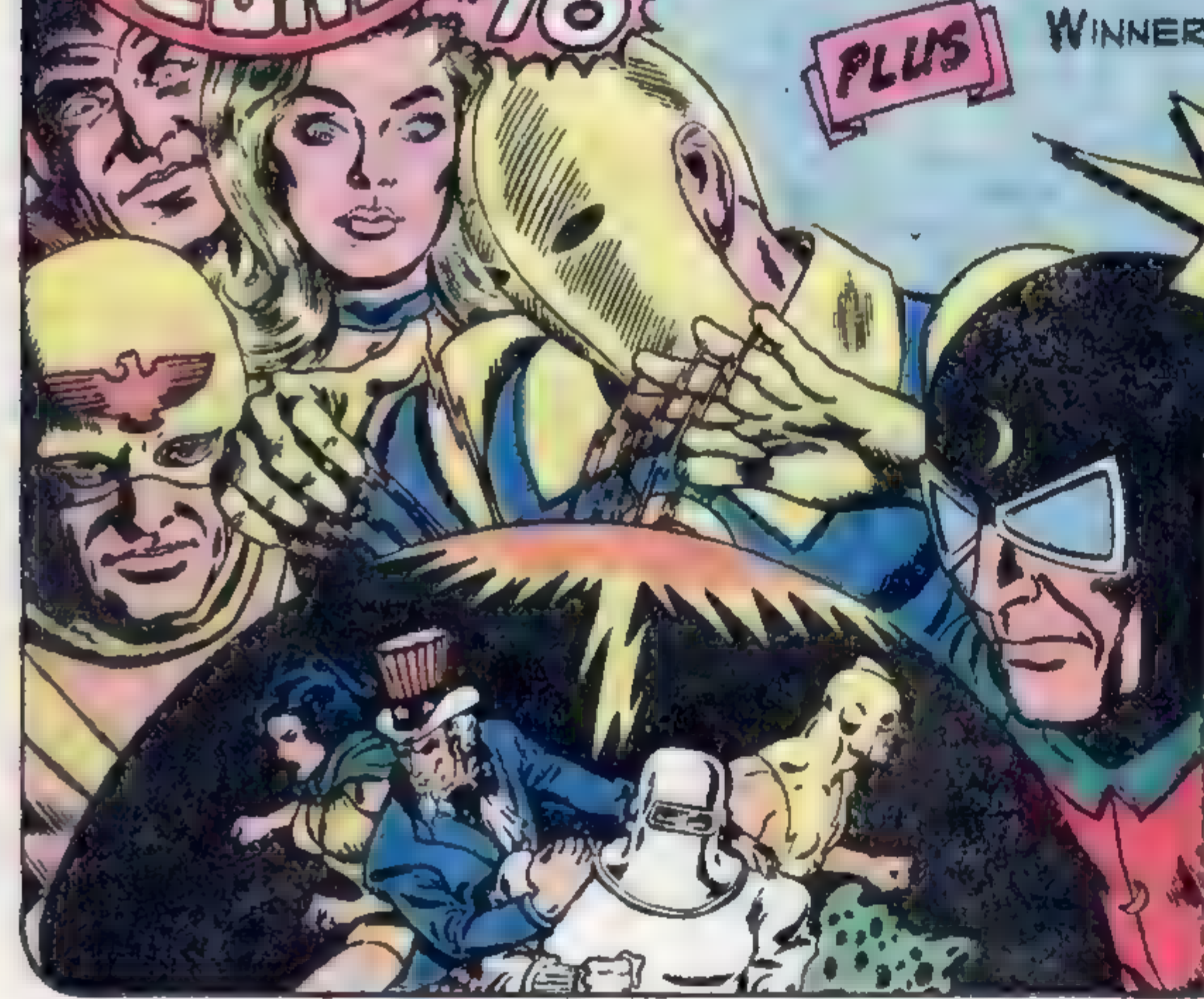
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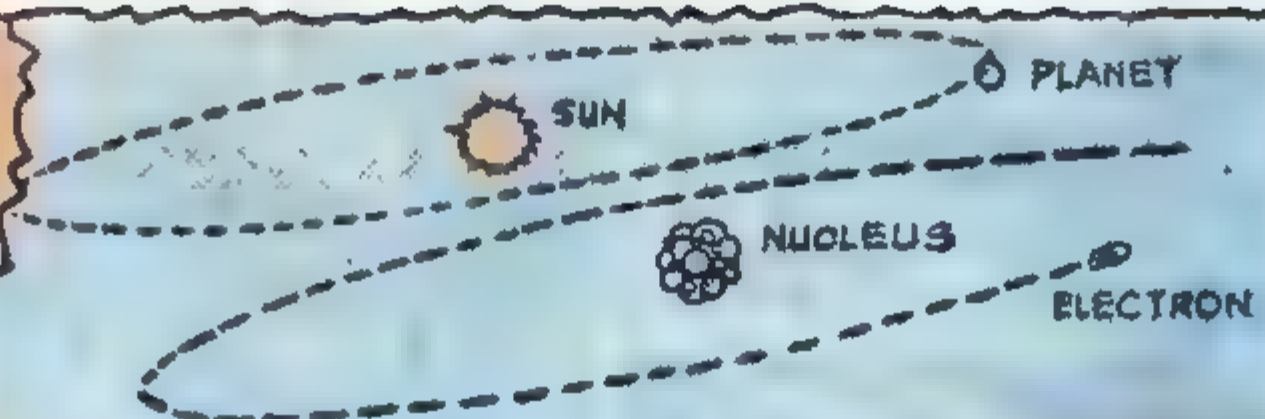
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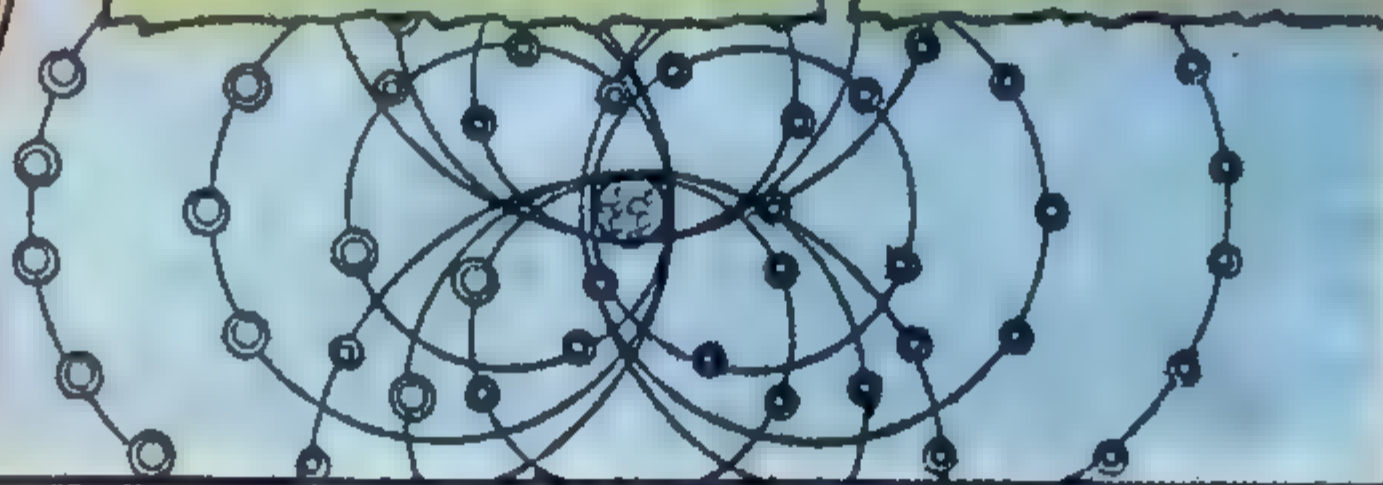
AND IN THAT **SPLIT-SECOND**, SUPERMAN SEEMS TO HEAR A VOICE SPEAKING DIRECTLY TO HIS SOUL: "I AM CALLED ROGA, AND I COME FROM A WORLD EXISTING IN **SUB-MICROSCOPIC SPACE...**"

"JUST AS IN YOUR **MACROSCOPIC SPACE** THERE ARE PLANETS CIRCLING SUNS, SO IN MY MICROSCOPIC UNIVERSE THERE ARE WORLDS ORBITING NUCLEI..."



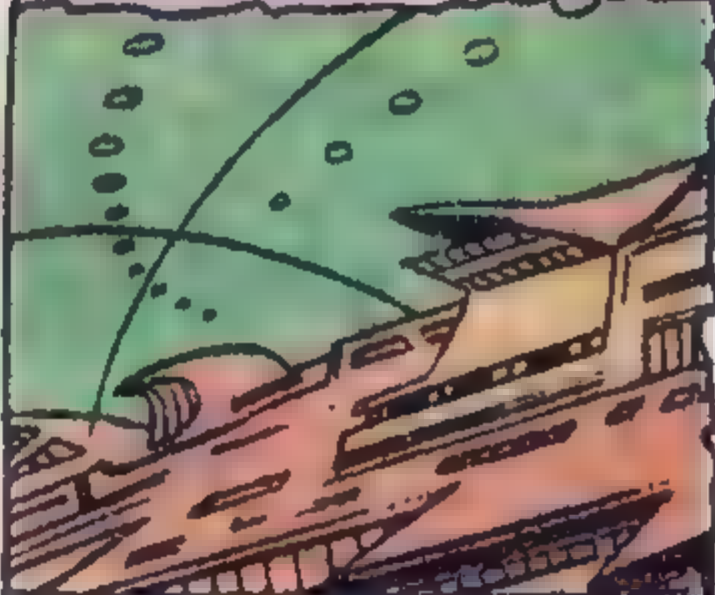
"WE CALL OUR WORLD **NORTUII**, AND WE ARE ONE OF THE 79 PLANETS ORBITING OUR NUCLEUS..."

"WE ARE AN ANCIENT PEOPLE GIVEN TO **STUDY AND SPORTS**, WHICH WE HONOR... THOUGH NOT EQUALLY..."



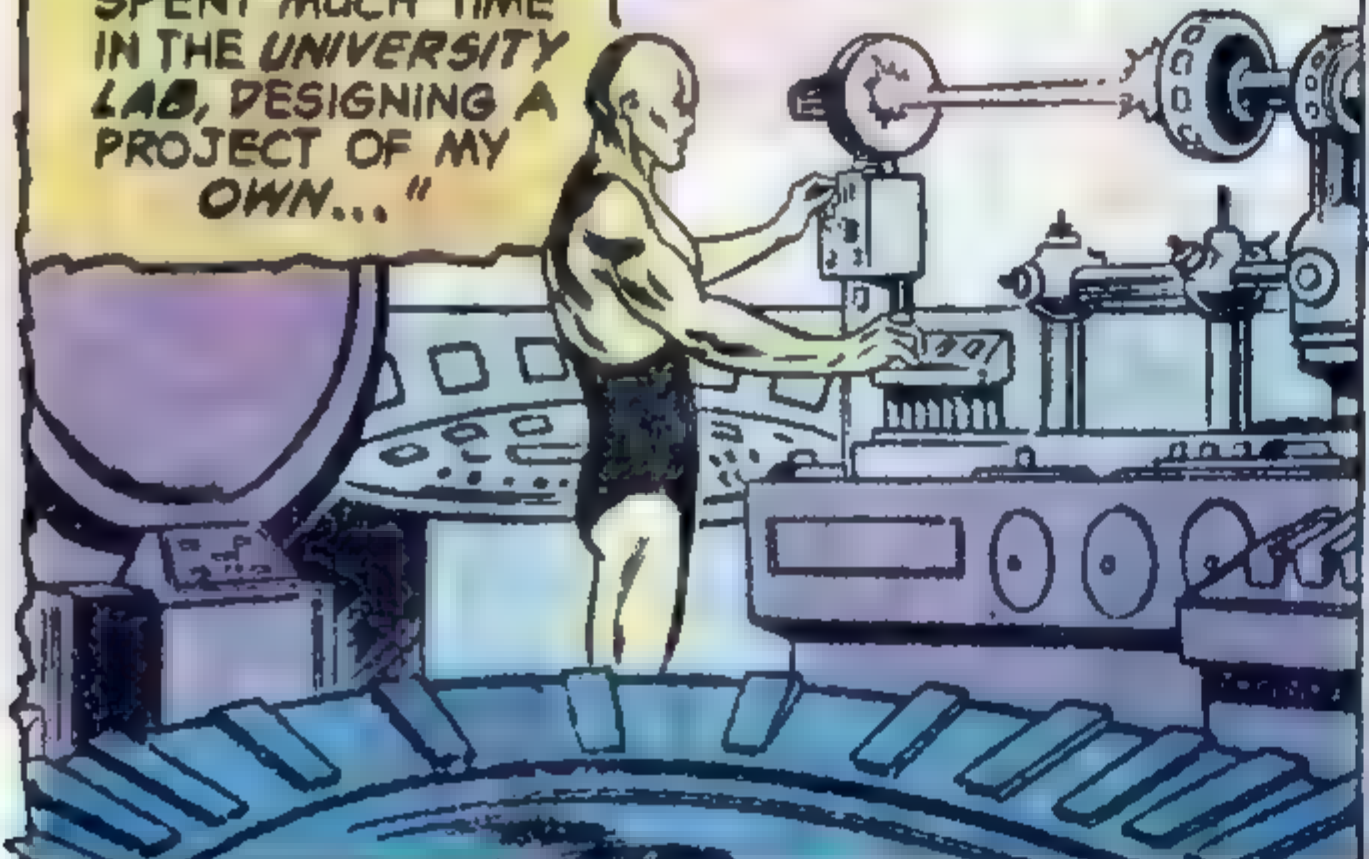
"I MYSELF AM BOTH A **STUDENT AND AN ATHLETE**, HAVING GAINED ENTRANCE TO THE **WORLD UNIVERSITY** BECAUSE OF MY **PHYSICAL PROWESS...**"

"HOWEVER, I SOON BECAME AWARE THAT THE OTHER STUDENTS **RESENTED ME...**"

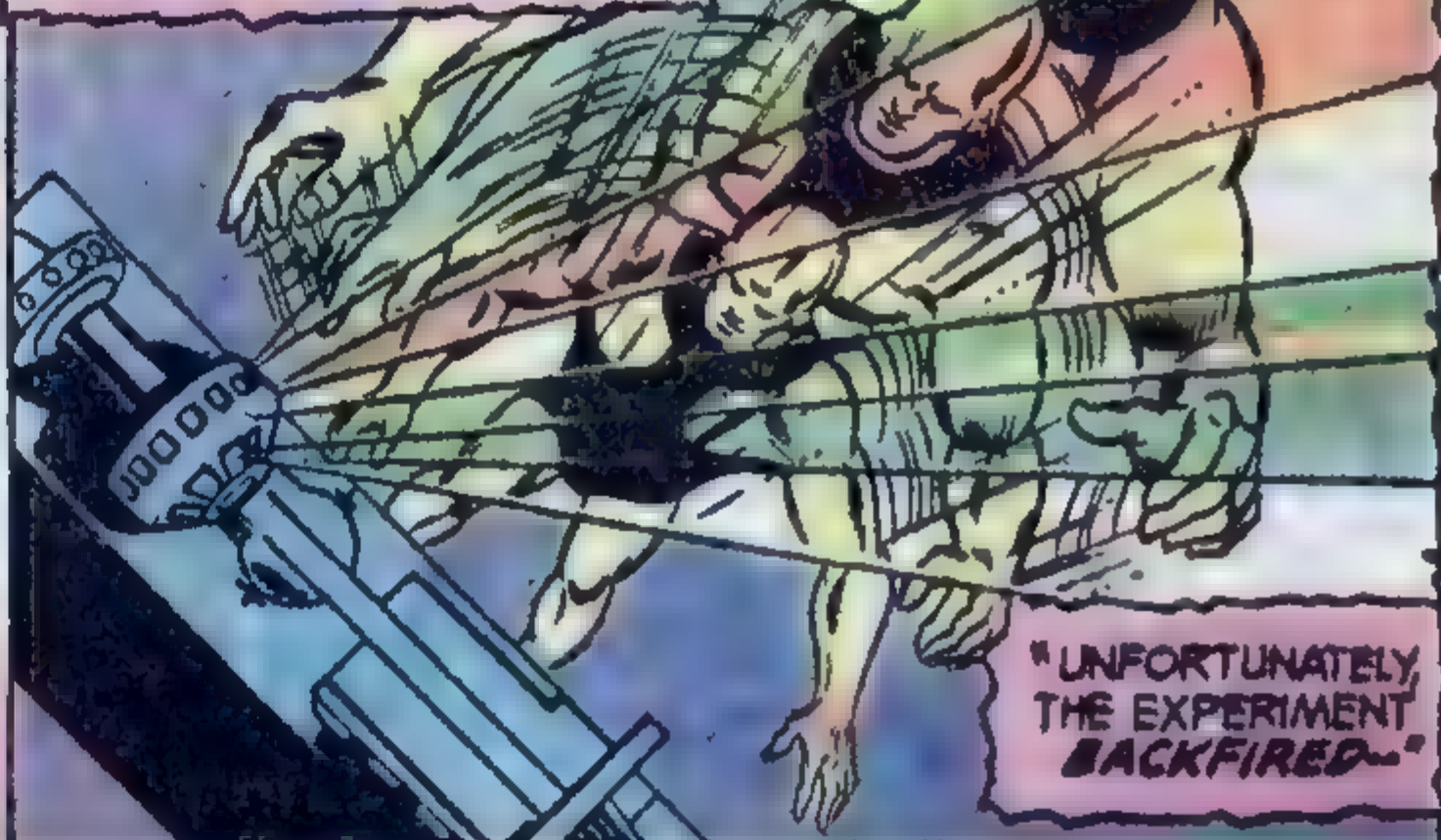


"--THINKING ME **INCAPABLE OF TRUE INTELLECTUAL ACTIVITY**, TO PROVE THEM **WRONG**, I SPENT MUCH TIME IN THE **UNIVERSITY LAB**, DESIGNING A PROJECT OF MY OWN..."

"I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN **FASCINATED BY ATOMIC STRUCTURE--**"



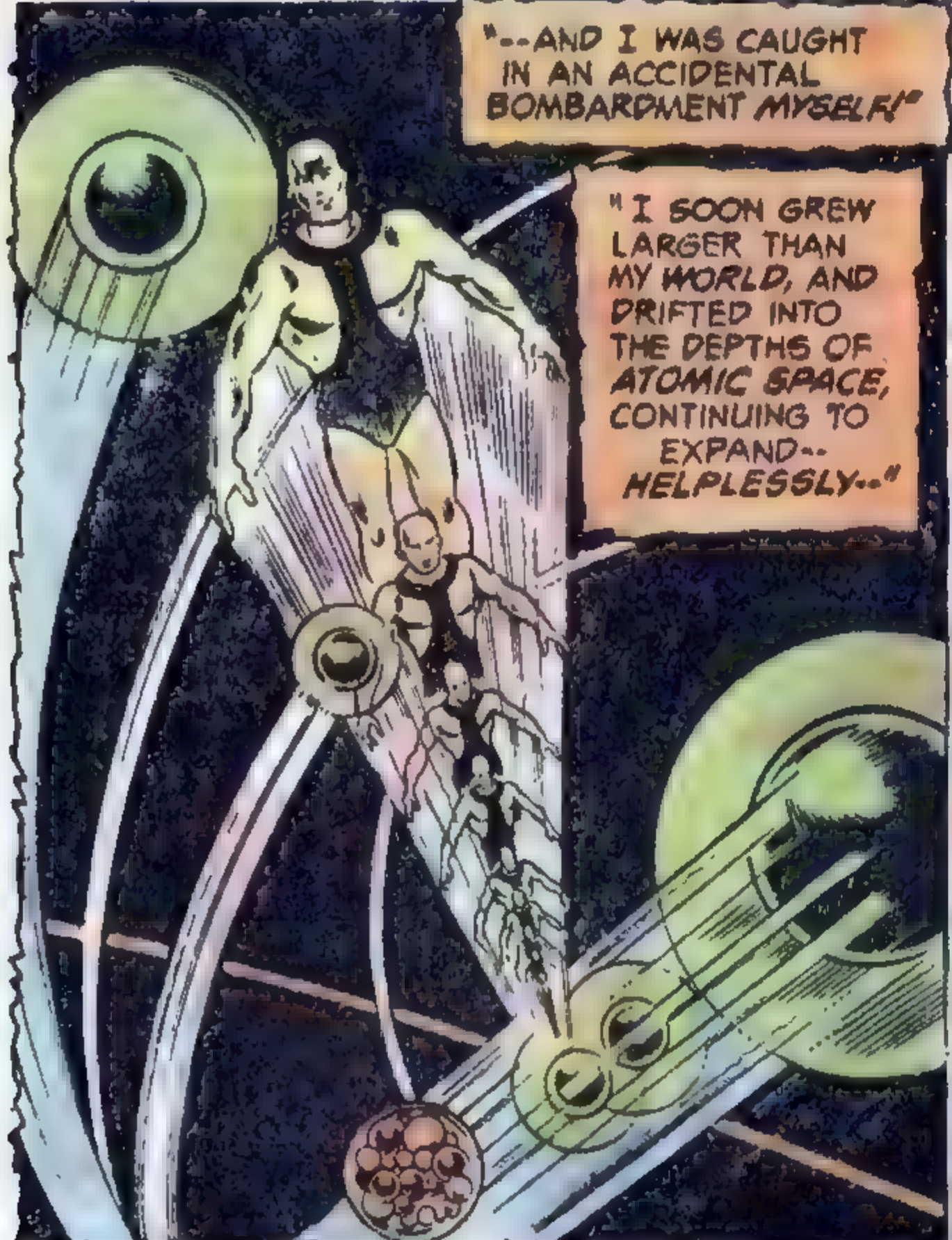
"--AND I BEGAN **EXPERIMENTS TO LEARN THE EFFECT OF SPECTRUM NEUTRINO-BOMBARDMENT ON LIVING ORGANISMS.**"



"UNFORTUNATELY, THE EXPERIMENT **BACKFIRED--**"

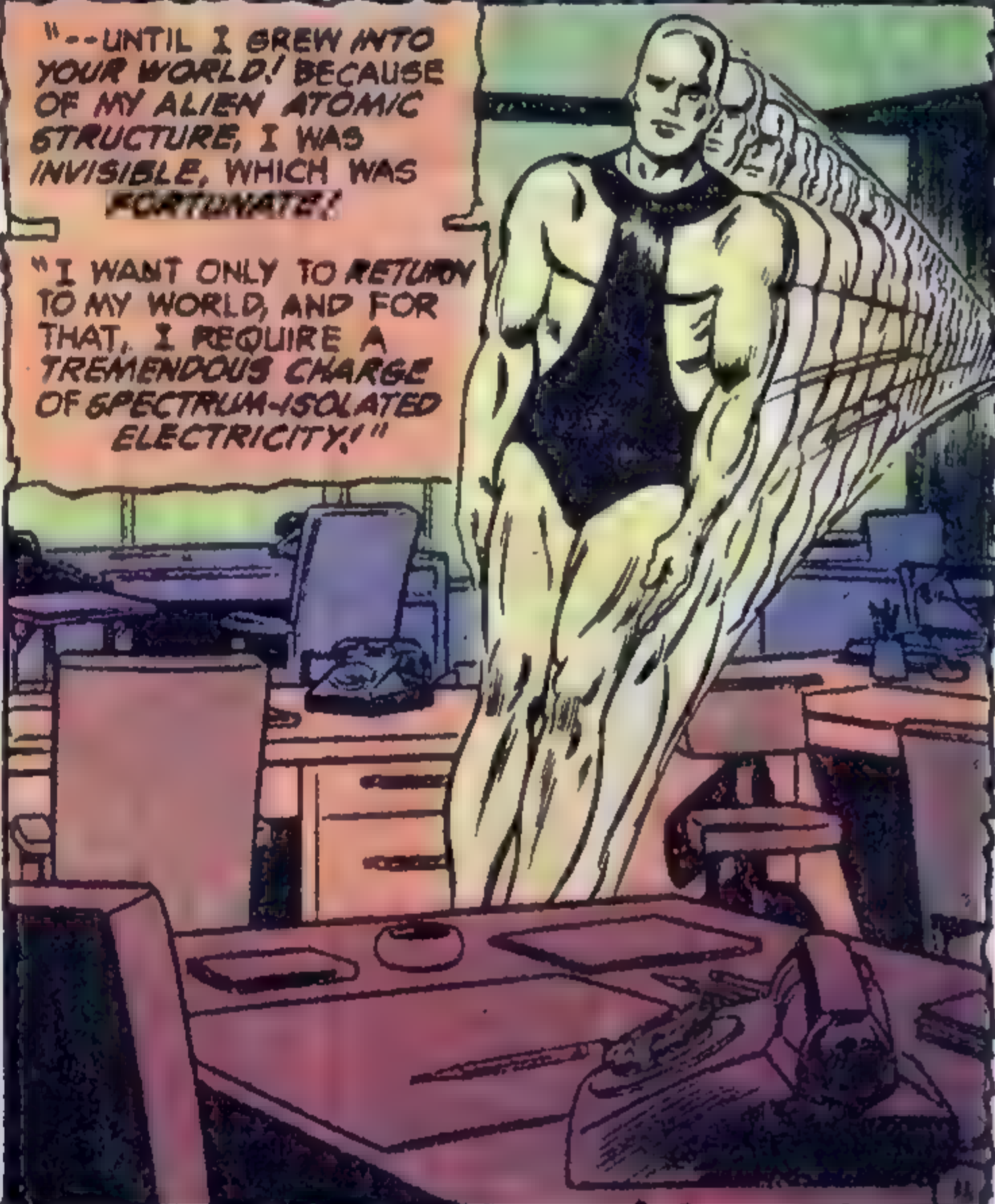
"--AND I WAS CAUGHT IN AN **ACCIDENTAL BOMBARDMENT MYSELF!**"

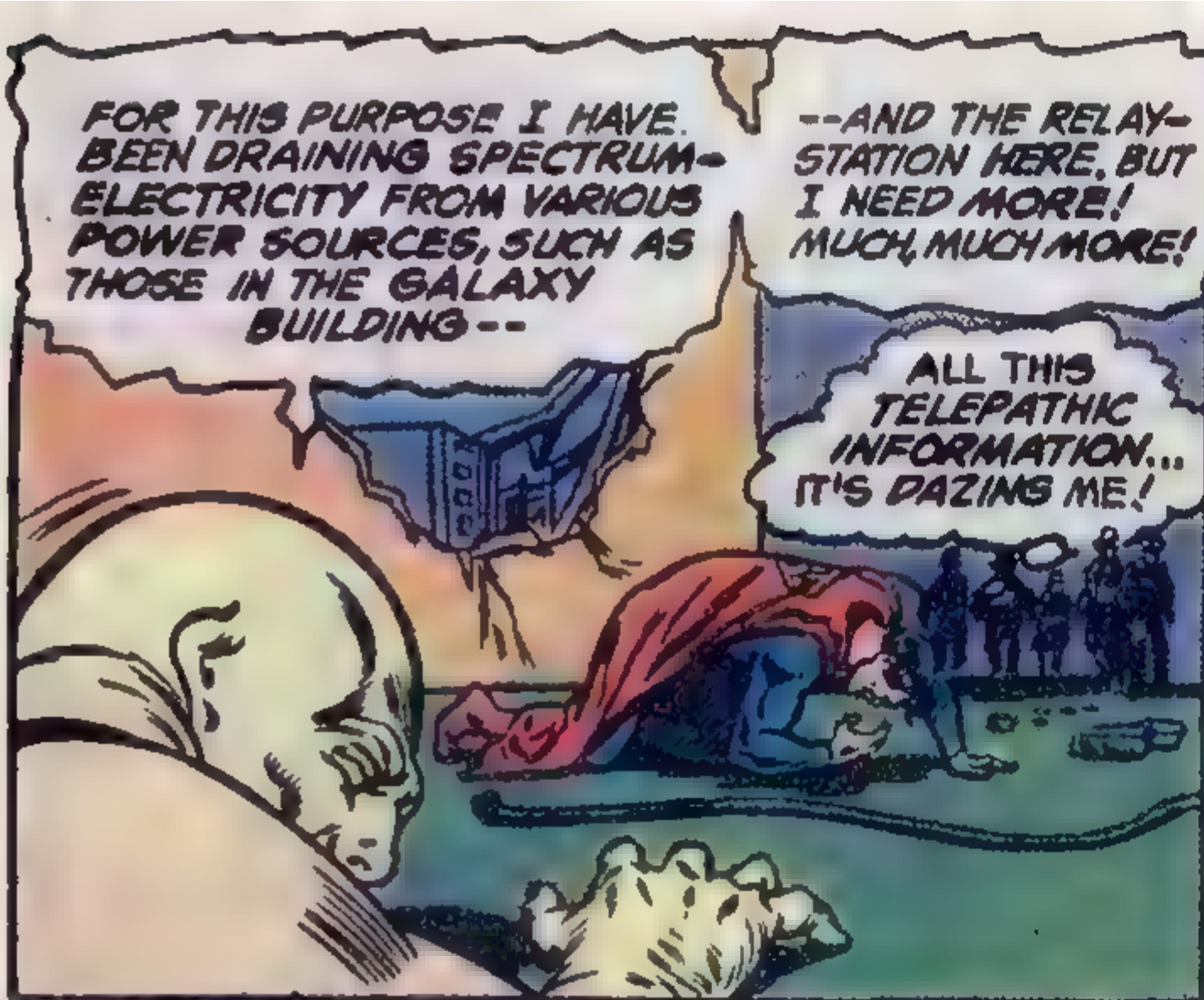
"I SOON GREW **LARGER THAN MY WORLD**, AND DRIIFTED INTO THE DEPTHS OF **ATOMIC SPACE**, CONTINUING TO **EXPAND-- HELPLESSLY--**"



"--UNTIL I GREW INTO **YOUR WORLD!** BECAUSE OF MY **ALIEN ATOMIC STRUCTURE**, I WAS **INVISIBLE**, WHICH WAS **FORTUNATE!**"

"I WANT ONLY TO **RETURN TO MY WORLD**, AND FOR THAT, I REQUIRE A **TREMENDOUS CHARGE OF SPECTRUM-ISOLATED ELECTRICITY!**"

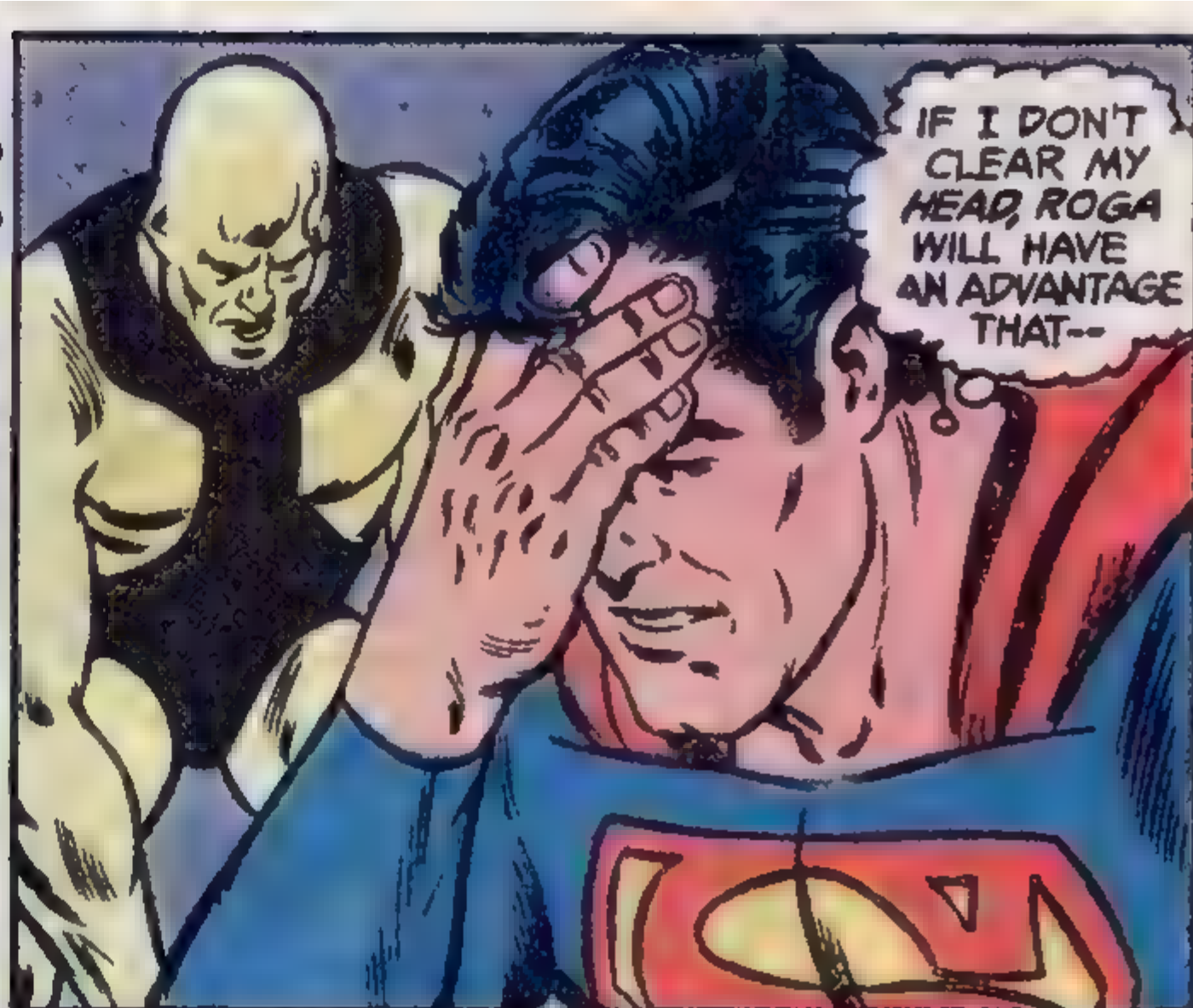




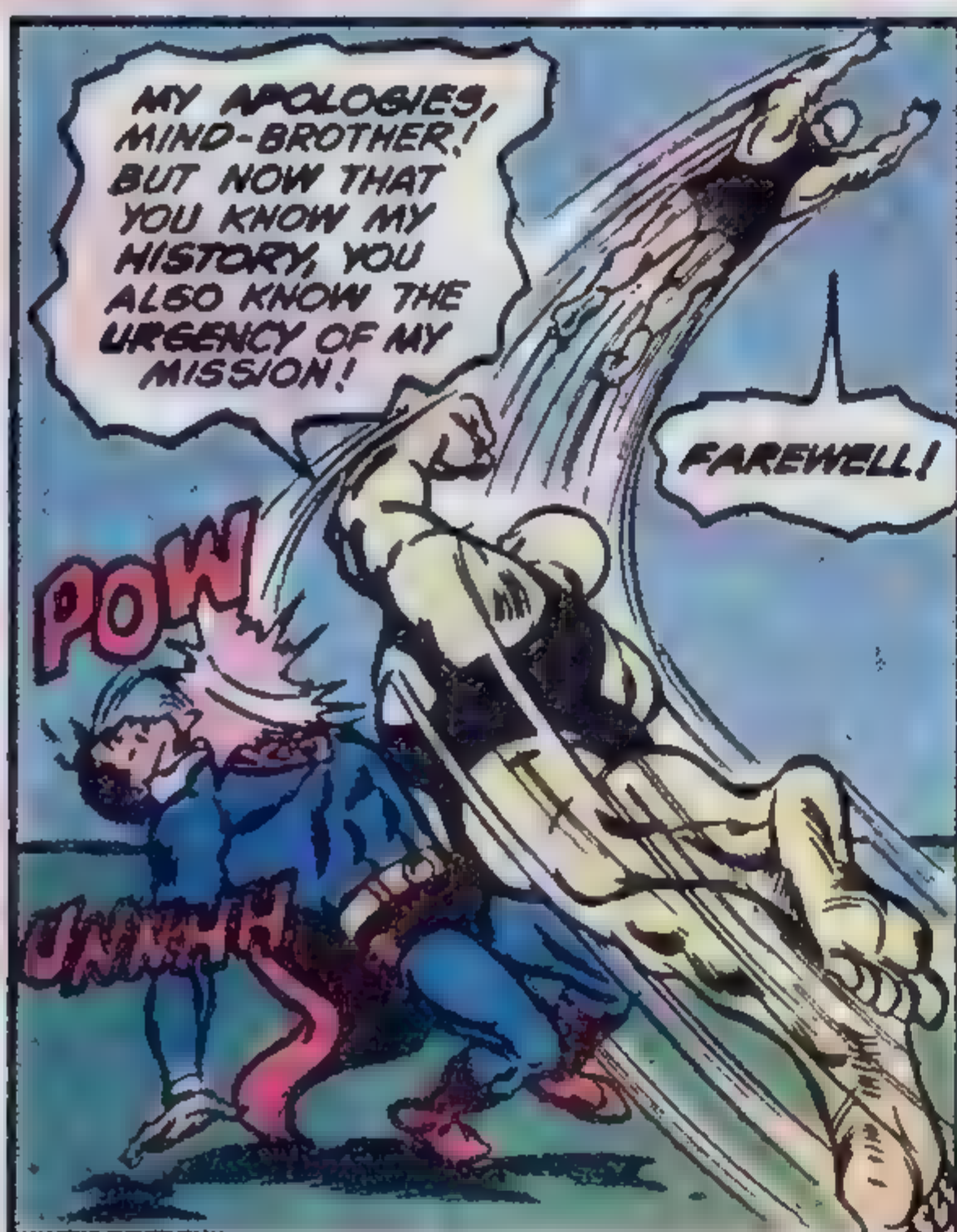
FOR THIS PURPOSE I HAVE BEEN DRAINING SPECTRUM-ELECTRICITY FROM VARIOUS POWER SOURCES, SUCH AS THOSE IN THE GALAXY BUILDING --

--AND THE RELAY-STATION HERE, BUT I NEED MORE! MUCH, MUCH MORE!

ALL THIS TELEPATHIC INFORMATION... IT'S DAZING ME!

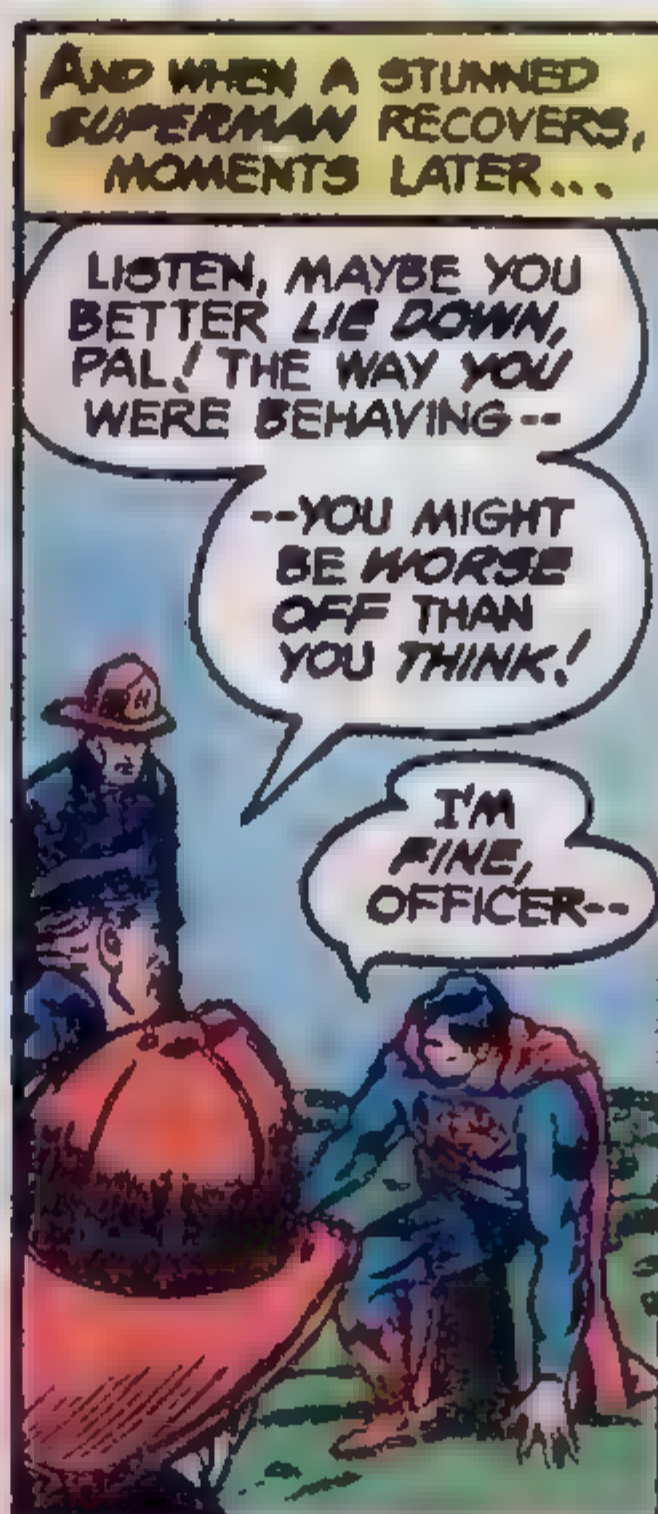


IF I DON'T CLEAR MY HEAD, ROGA WILL HAVE AN ADVANTAGE THAT--



MY APOLOGIES, MIND-BROTHER! BUT NOW THAT YOU KNOW MY HISTORY, YOU ALSO KNOW THE URGENCY OF MY MISSION!

FAREWELL!

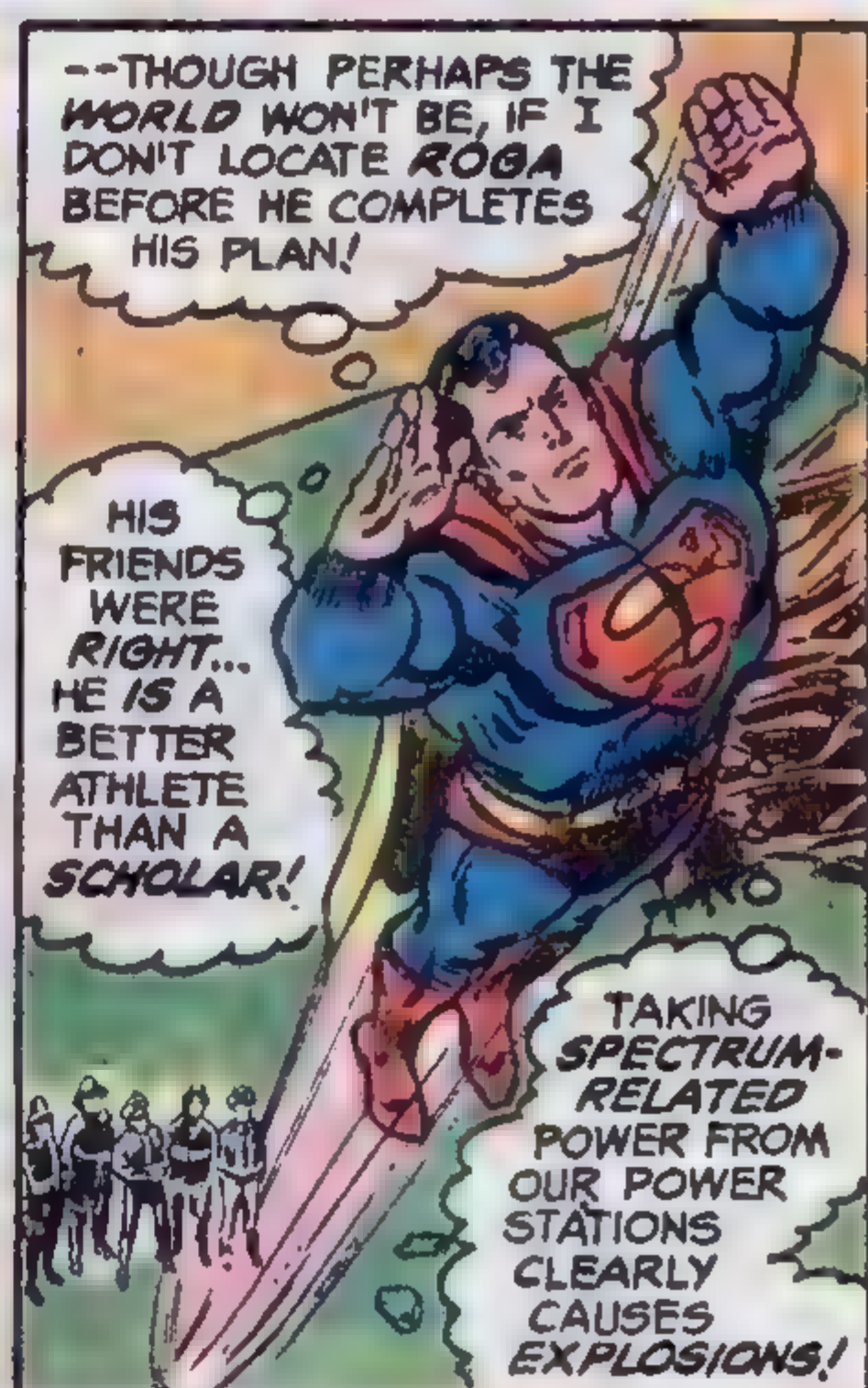


AND WHEN A STUNNED SUPERMAN RECOVERS, MOMENTS LATER...

LISTEN, MAYBE YOU BETTER LIE DOWN, PAL! THE WAY YOU WERE BEHAVING--

--YOU MIGHT BE WORSE OFF THAN YOU THINK!

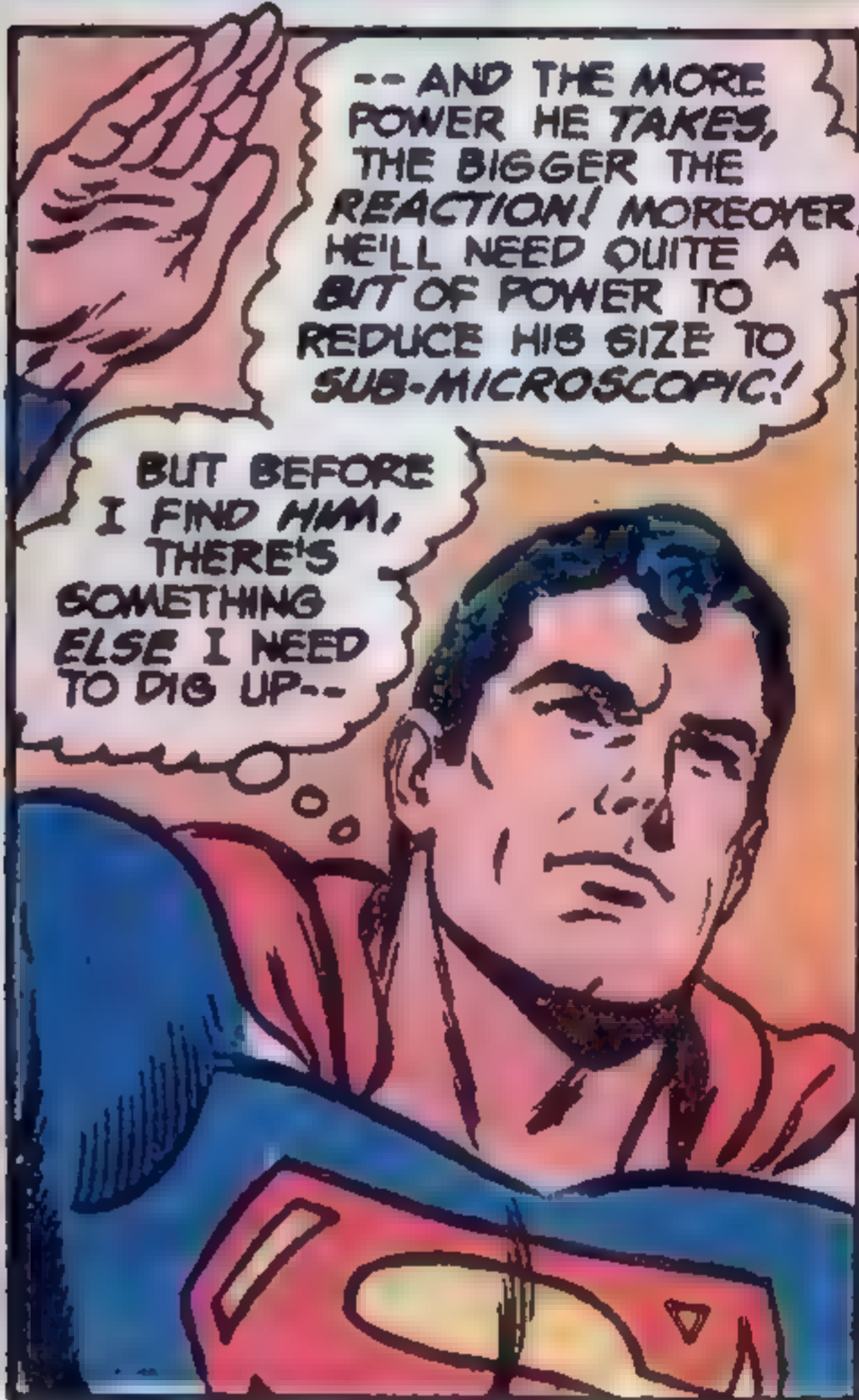
I'M FINE, OFFICER--



--THOUGH PERHAPS THE WORLD WON'T BE, IF I DON'T LOCATE ROGA BEFORE HE COMPLETES HIS PLAN!

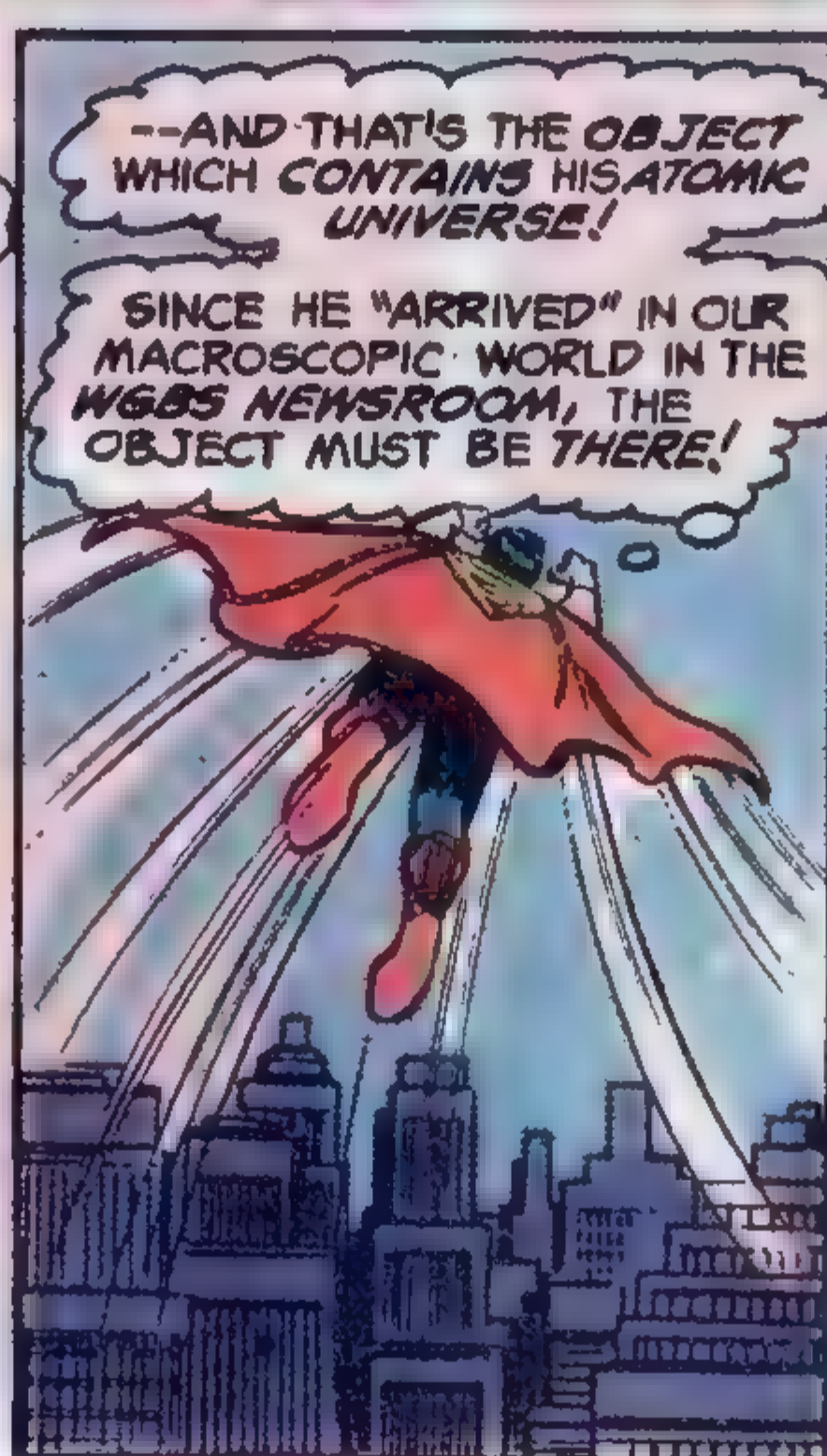
HIS FRIENDS WERE RIGHT... HE IS A BETTER ATHLETE THAN A SCHOLAR!

TAKING SPECTRUM-RELATED POWER FROM OUR POWER STATIONS CLEARLY CAUSES EXPLOSIONS!



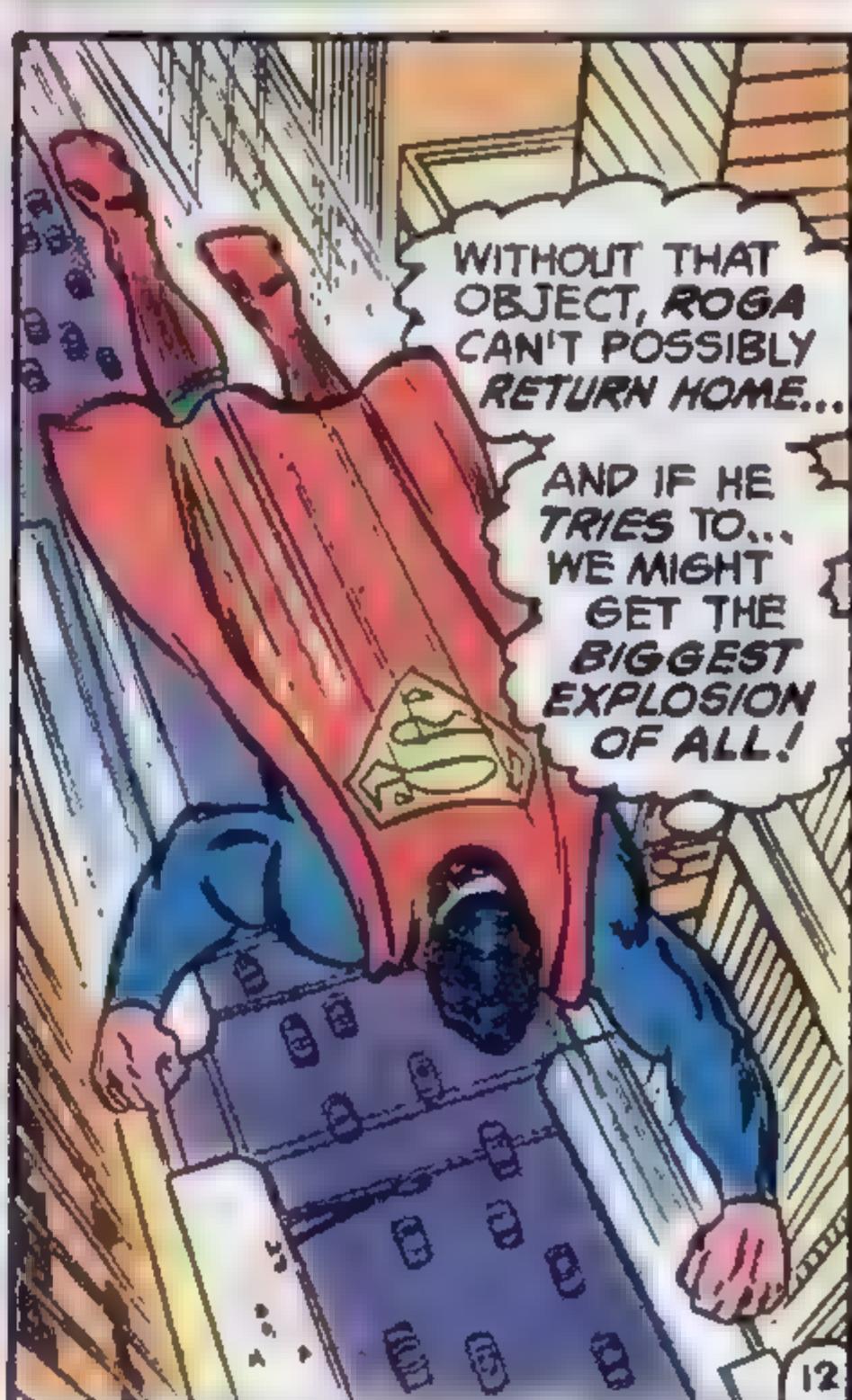
-- AND THE MORE POWER HE TAKES, THE BIGGER THE REACTION! MOREOVER, HE'LL NEED QUITE A BIT OF POWER TO REDUCE HIS SIZE TO SUB-MICROSCOPIC!

BUT BEFORE I FIND HIM, THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE I NEED TO DIG UP--



--AND THAT'S THE OBJECT WHICH CONTAINS HIS ATOMIC UNIVERSE!

SINCE HE "ARRIVED" IN OUR MACROSCOPIC WORLD IN THE WGBS NEWSROOM, THE OBJECT MUST BE THERE!



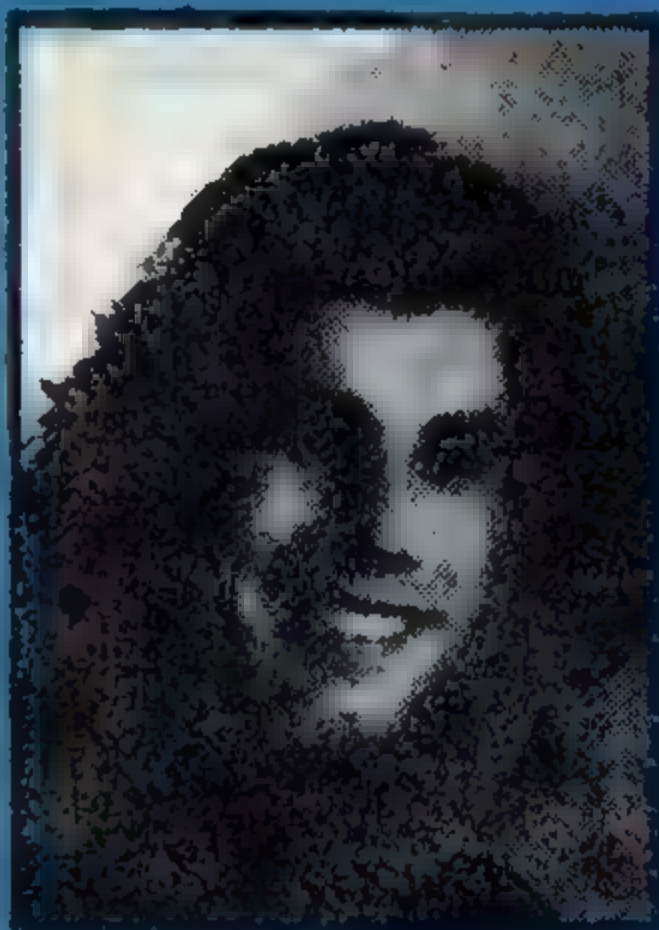
WITHOUT THAT OBJECT, ROGA CAN'T POSSIBLY RETURN HOME...

AND IF HE TRIES TO... WE MIGHT GET THE BIGGEST EXPLOSION OF ALL!

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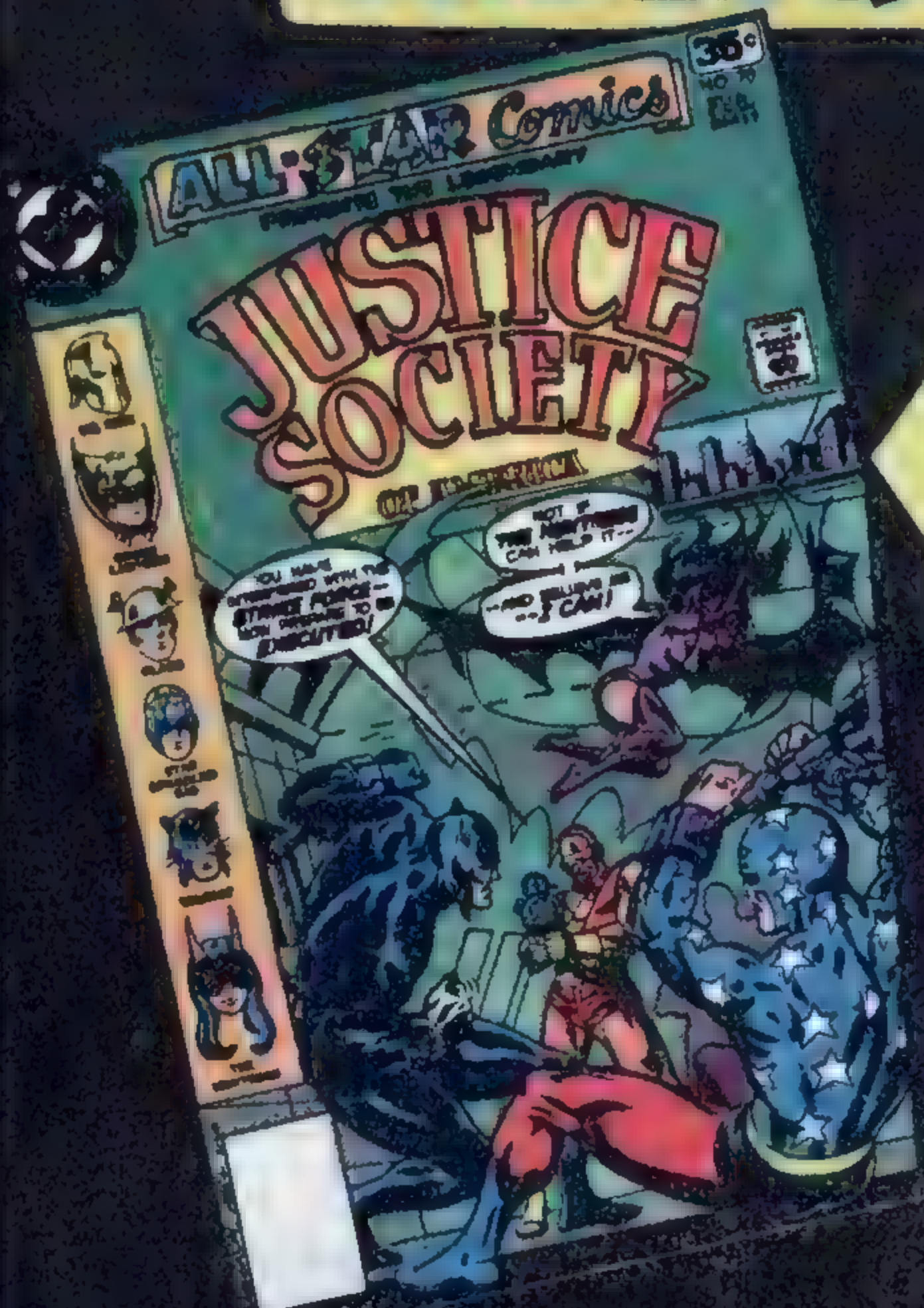
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DC's DYNAMIC NEW HEROINE
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JOINS THE
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**ALL-STAR
COMICS #70**

ON SALE
**OCTOBER
18TH**



SHADE
IS
CAPTURED
BY THE
**SUPREME
DECIDER!**



LEARN THE SECRET OF THE CHANGING MAN--
AND THE IDENTITY OF THE MASTER VILLAIN!
SHADE #5-- ON SALE NOVEMBER 1ST!

SHORTLY, IN THE *WGBS* NEWS BULLPEN...

SOMEWHERE AMONG ALL THESE THINGS IS THE OBJECT WHICH HOLDS ROGA'S HOME-WORLD ATOM!

ROGA DIDN'T SEE WHICH ONE IT WAS, SO I CAN'T DEPEND ON THE INFORMATION HE GAVE ME TELEPATHICALLY...

...AND I DON'T DARE USE MY SUPERVISION TO EXAMINE THE OBJECTS MICROSCOPICALLY, FOR FEAR OF INJURING ROGA'S WORLD!

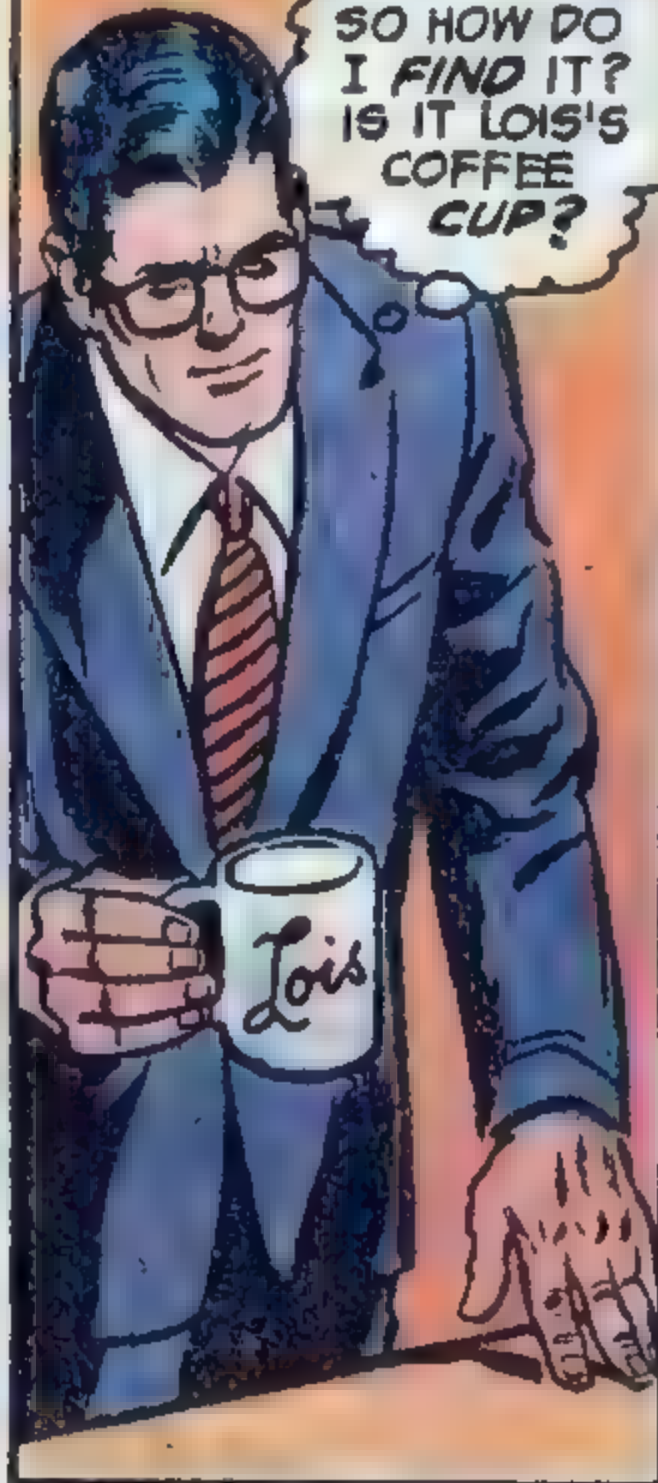
SO HOW DO I FIND IT? IS IT LOIS'S COFFEE CUP?

MELBA'S MIRROR? JIMMY'S PENCIL-SHARPENER?

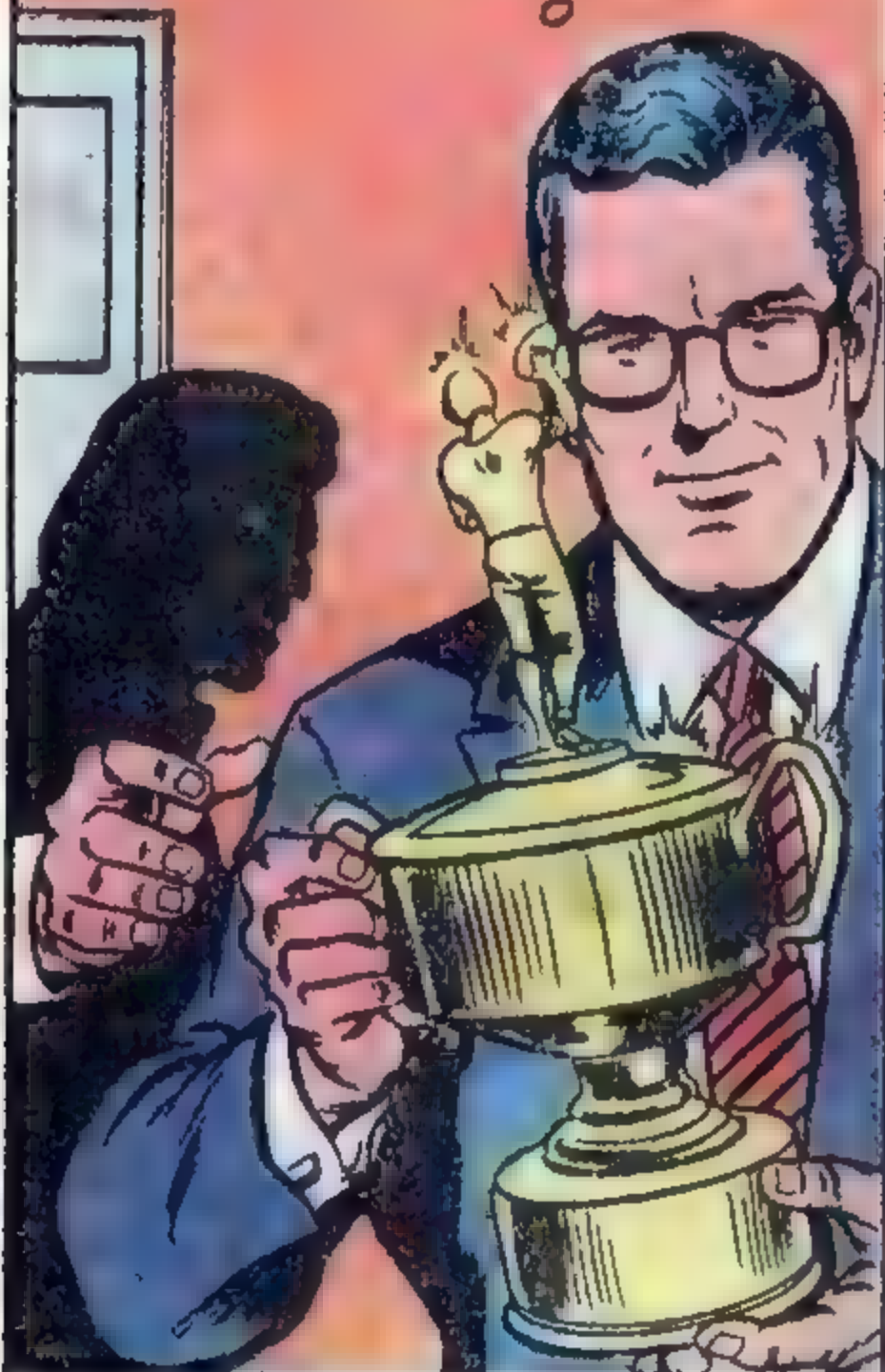
LANA LANG'S TREASURED ORIENTAL BOOKEND?

STEVE'S TROPHY? MY TYPEWRITER? THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS, I'LL NEVER--

STEVE'S TROPHY? OF COURSE-- THAT'S IT!

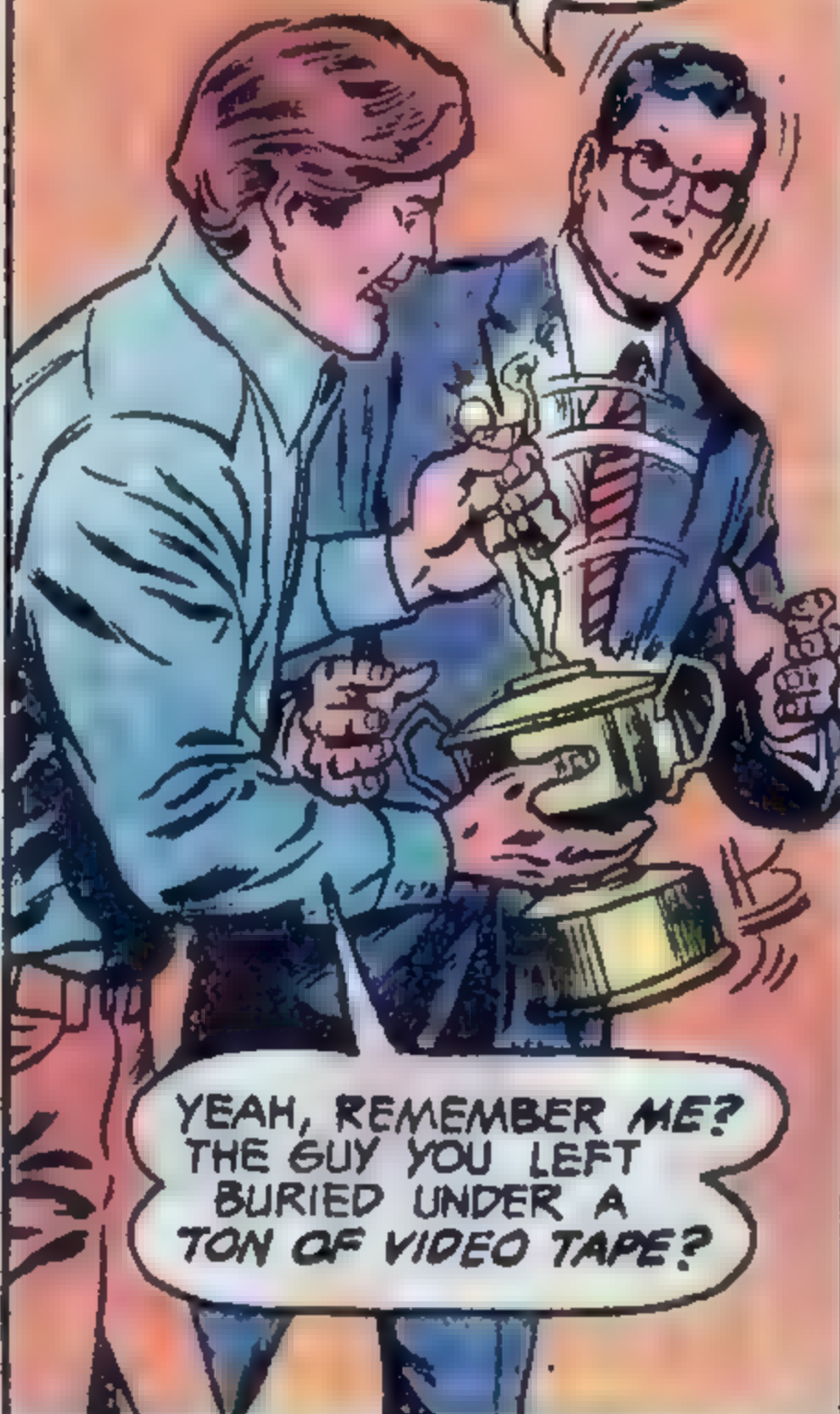


ROGA SAID THERE WERE 79 PLANETS ORBITING HIS WORLD'S NUCLEUS... AND 79 IS THE ATOMIC NUMBER OF GOLD! STEVE'S TROPHY IS THE ONLY GOLD OBJECT IN THE ROOM! ERGO--



HANDS OFF, KENT! YOU WANT A TROPHY, GET ONE OF YOUR OWN!

STEVE?



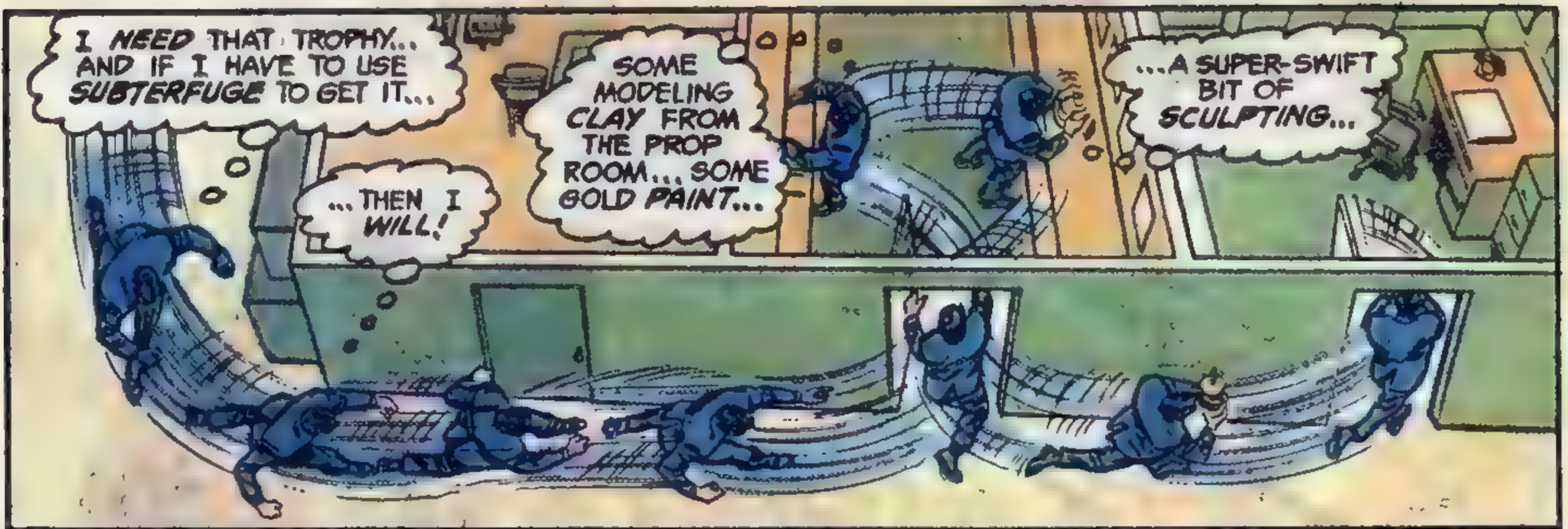
YEAH, REMEMBER ME? THE GUY YOU LEFT BURIED UNDER A TON OF VIDEO TAPE?

IT TOOK ME AN HOUR TO DIG MY WAY OUT OF THAT CLOSET--

--AND IF I DIDN'T KNOW BETTER, I'D SWEAR YOU-- AW, FORGET IT!

JUST KEEP YOUR MITTS OFF MY TROPHY... OR ELSE!



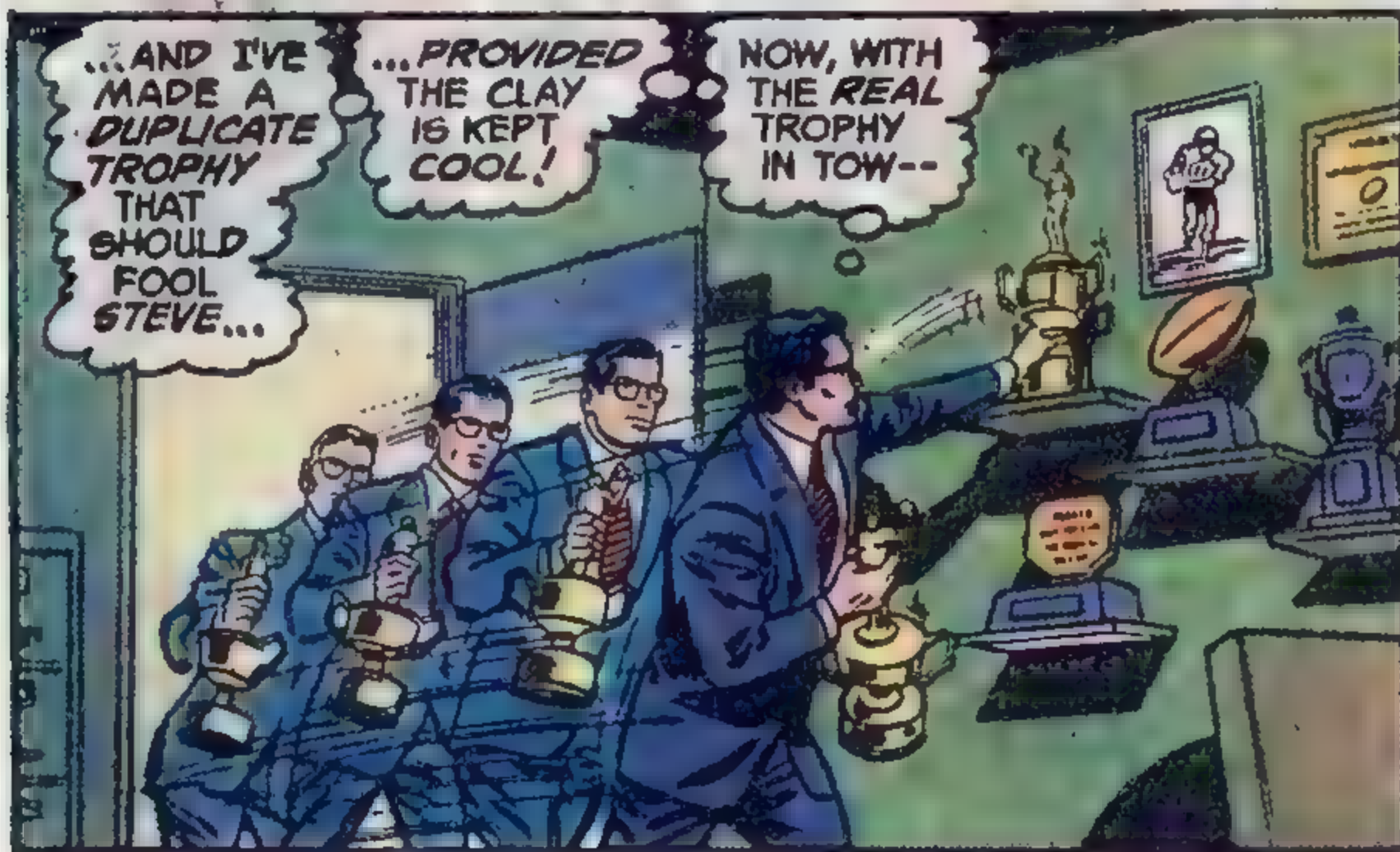


I NEED THAT TROPHY...
AND IF I HAVE TO USE
SUBTERFUGE TO GET IT...

... THEN I
WILL!

SOME
MODELING
CLAY FROM
THE PROP
ROOM... SOME
GOLD PAINT...

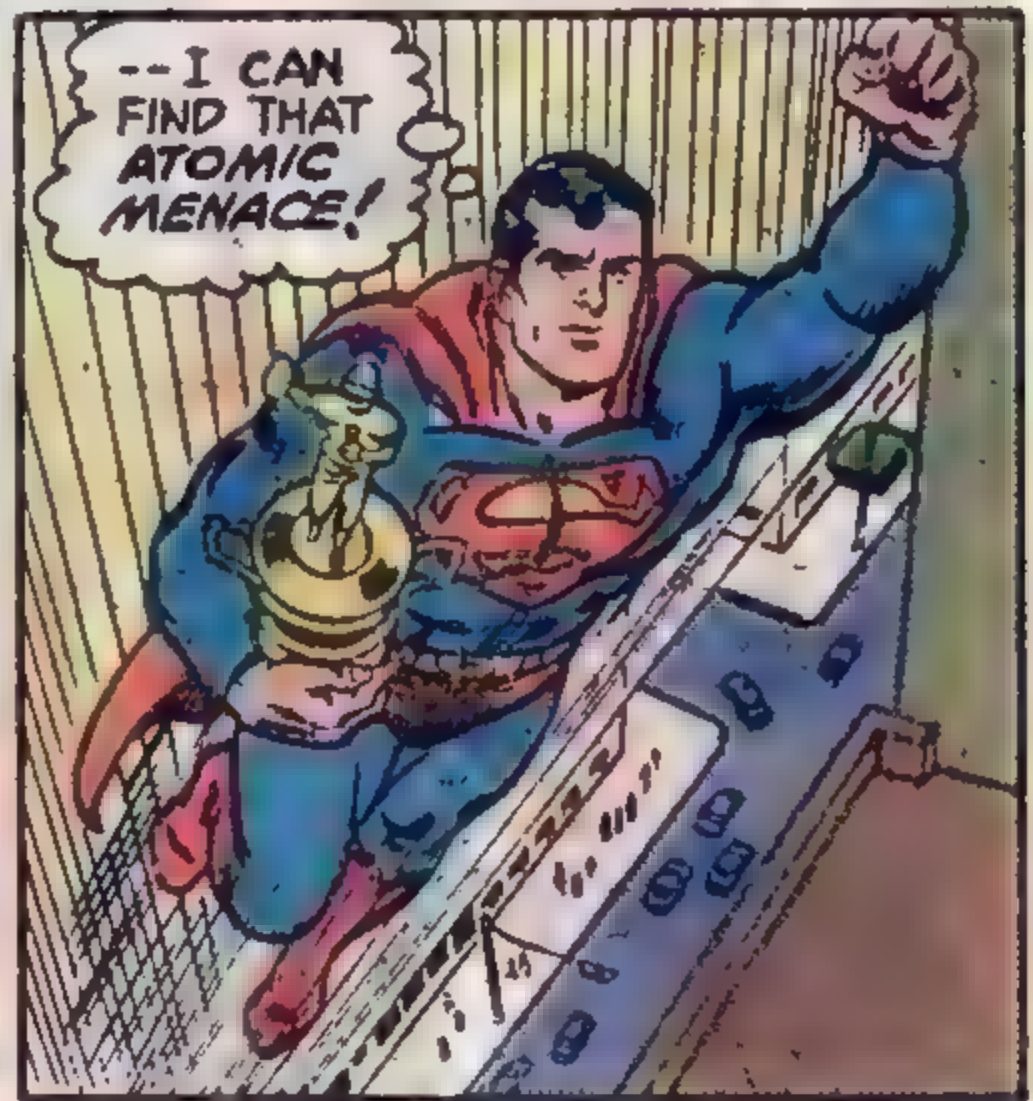
...A SUPER-SWIFT
BIT OF
SCULPTING...



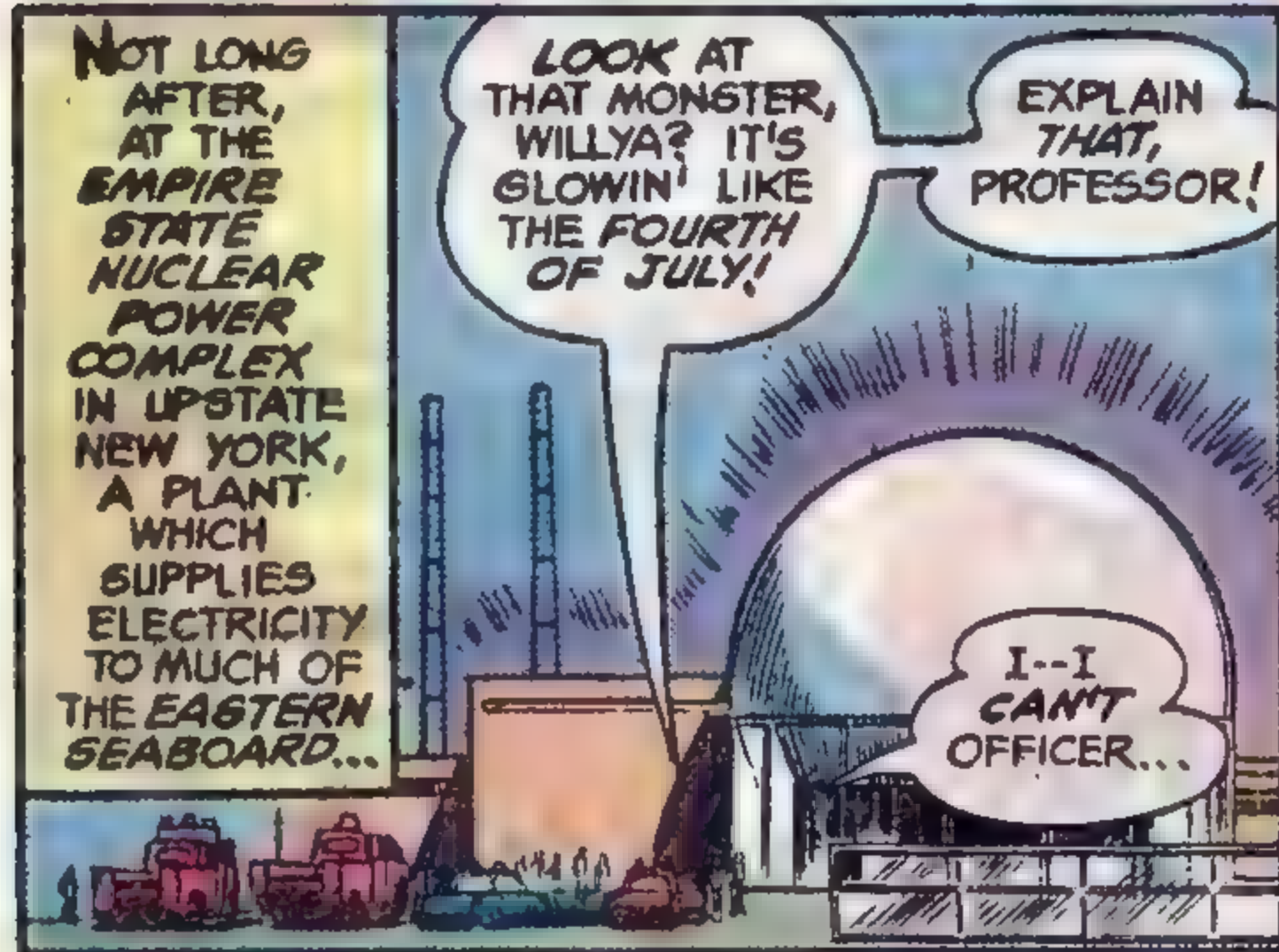
...AND I'VE
MADE A
DUPLICATE
TROPHY
THAT
SHOULD
FOOL
STEVE...

...PROVIDED
THE CLAY
IS KEPT
COOL!

NOW, WITH
THE REAL
TROPHY
IN TOW--



--I CAN
FIND THAT
ATOMIC
MENACE!

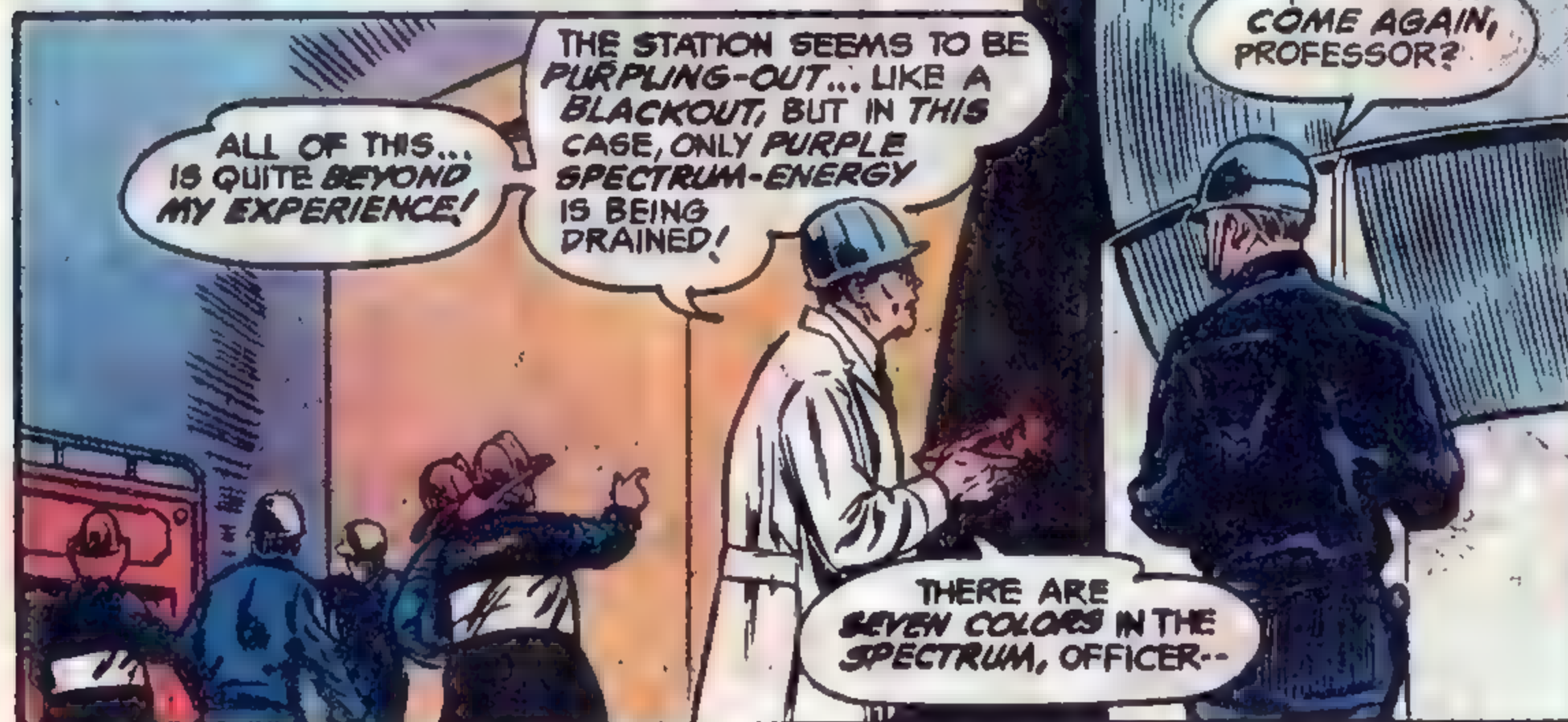


NOT LONG
AFTER,
AT THE
EMPIRE
STATE
NUCLEAR
POWER
COMPLEX
IN UPSTATE
NEW YORK,
A PLANT
WHICH
SUPPLIES
ELECTRICITY
TO MUCH OF
THE EASTERN
SEABOARD...

LOOK AT
THAT MONSTER,
WILLYA? IT'S
GLOWIN' LIKE
THE FOURTH
OF JULY!

EXPLAIN
THAT,
PROFESSOR!

I--I
CAN'T
OFFICER...

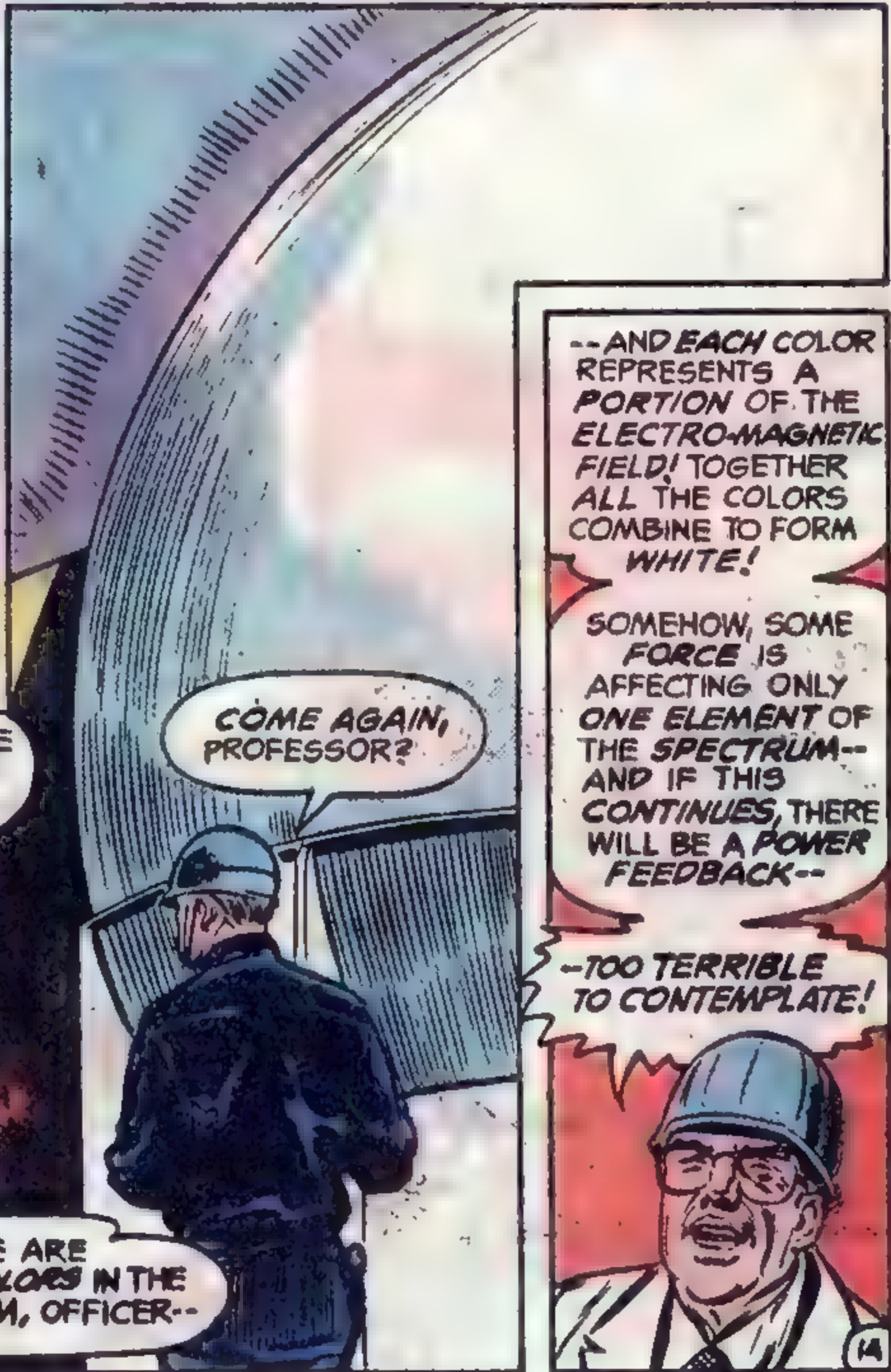


ALL OF THIS...
IS QUITE BEYOND
MY EXPERIENCE!

THE STATION SEEMS TO BE
PURPLING-OUT... LIKE A
BLACKOUT, BUT IN THIS
CASE, ONLY PURPLE
SPECTRUM-ENERGY
IS BEING
DRAINED!

COME AGAIN,
PROFESSOR?

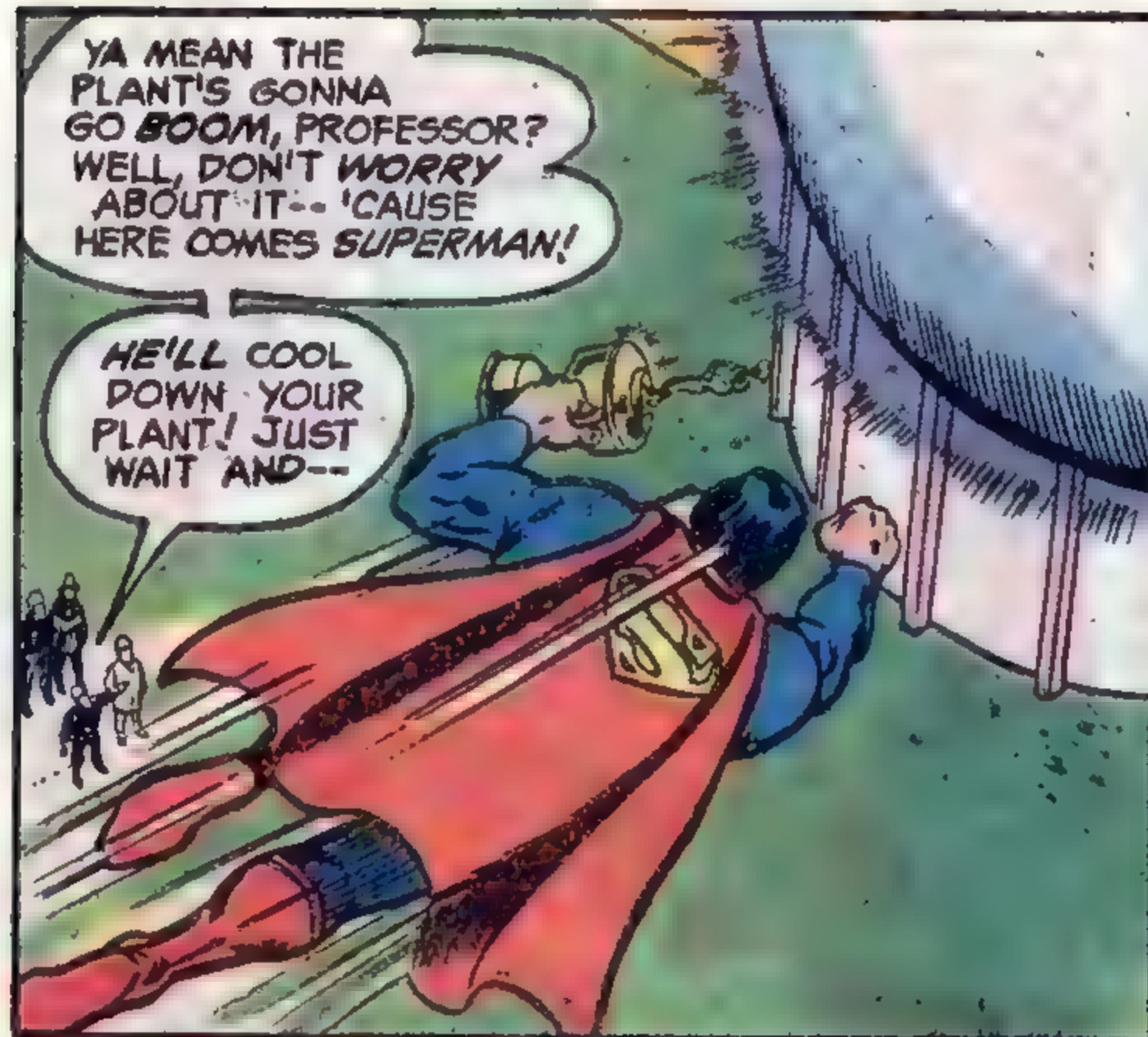
THERE ARE
SEVEN COLORS IN THE
SPECTRUM, OFFICER--



--AND EACH COLOR
REPRESENTS A
PORTION OF THE
ELECTRO-MAGNETIC
FIELD! TOGETHER
ALL THE COLORS
COMBINE TO FORM
WHITE!

SOMEHOW, SOME
FORCE IS
AFFECTING ONLY
ONE ELEMENT OF
THE SPECTRUM--
AND IF THIS
CONTINUES, THERE
WILL BE A POWER
FEEDBACK--

--TOO TERRIBLE
TO CONTEMPLATE!



YA MEAN THE PLANT'S GONNA GO BOOM, PROFESSOR? WELL, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT-- 'CAUSE HERE COMES SUPERMAN!

HE'LL COOL DOWN YOUR PLANT! JUST WAIT AND--

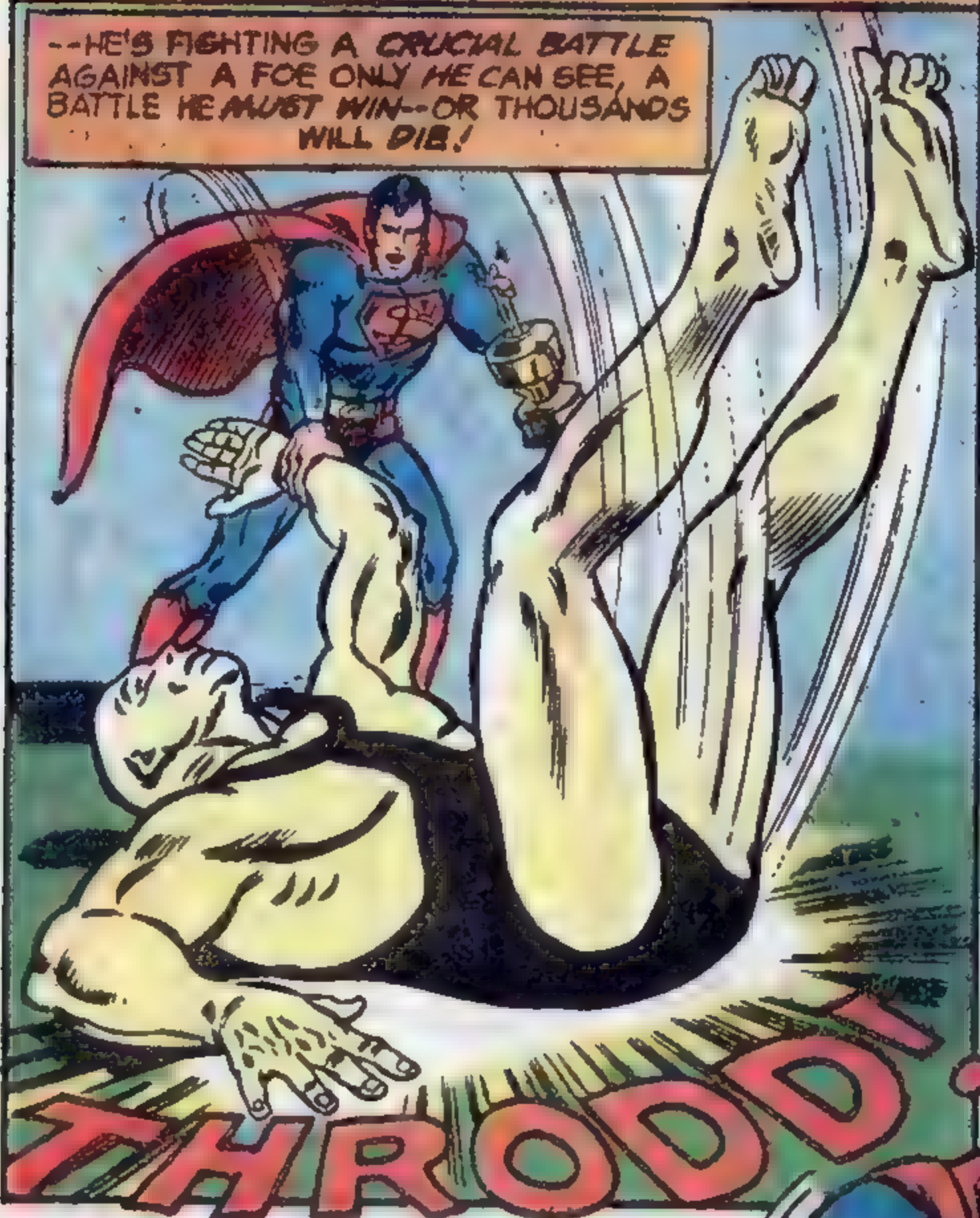


--SEE? WHAT'S HE DOING?

STRIKING THE AIR, OFFICER--

--JUST STRIKING THE AIR!

BUT THE ACTION ACE IS DOING FAR MORE THAN "STRIKING AIR"--

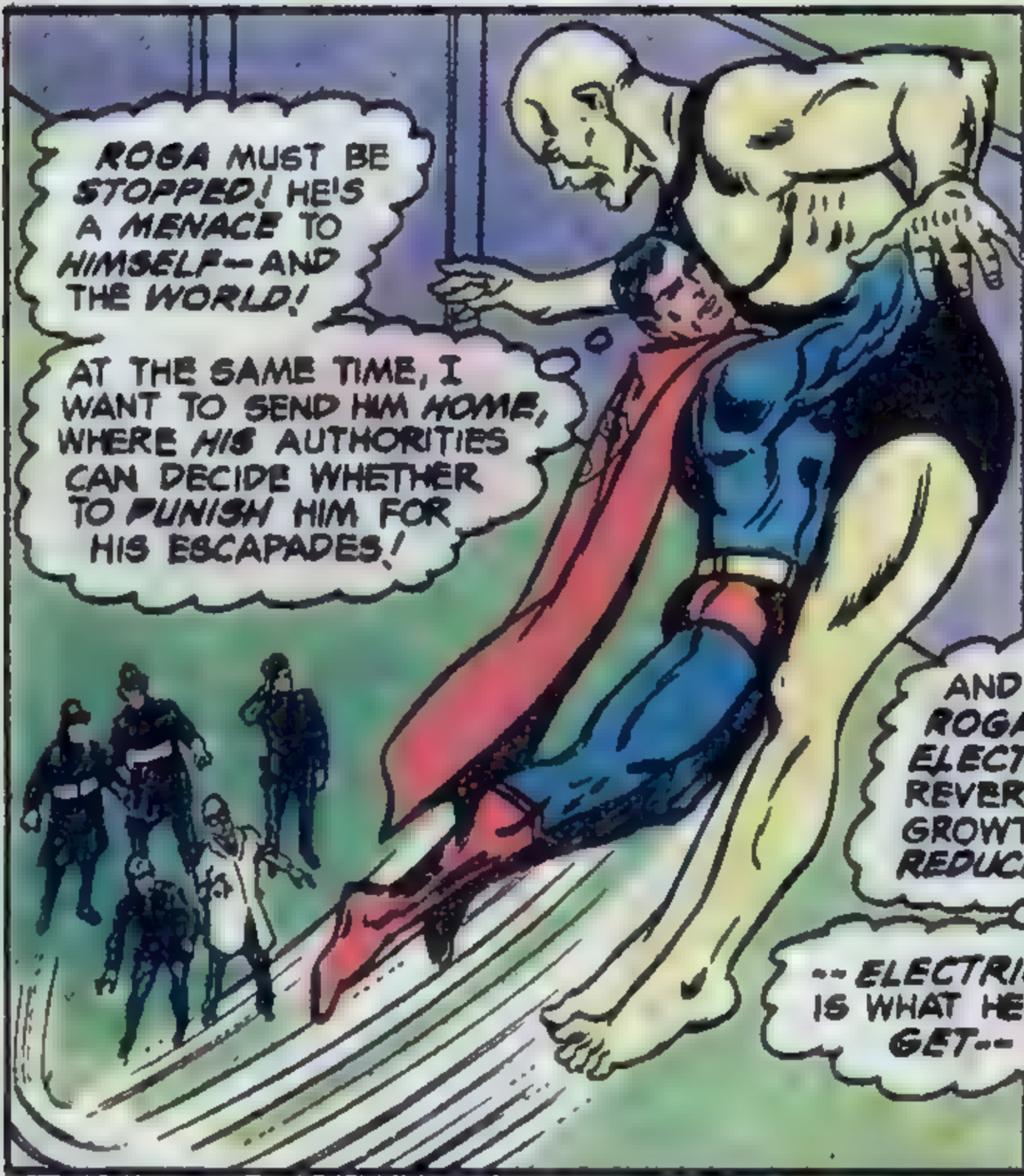


--HE'S FIGHTING A CRUCIAL BATTLE AGAINST A FOE ONLY HE CAN SEE, A BATTLE HE MUST WIN--OR THOUSANDS WILL DIE!



--BUT IF HE SUCCEEDS IN TAKING IT FROM THIS PLANT, HE'LL CAUSE A POWER WHITE-OUT--THE REVERSE OF A BLACKOUT!

ALL ACROSS THE EAST COAST, HOMES WILL BE OVERLOADED WITH EXCESS ELECTRICITY--AND THE RESULT WILL BE FIRES, EXPLOSIONS--CATASTROPHE!

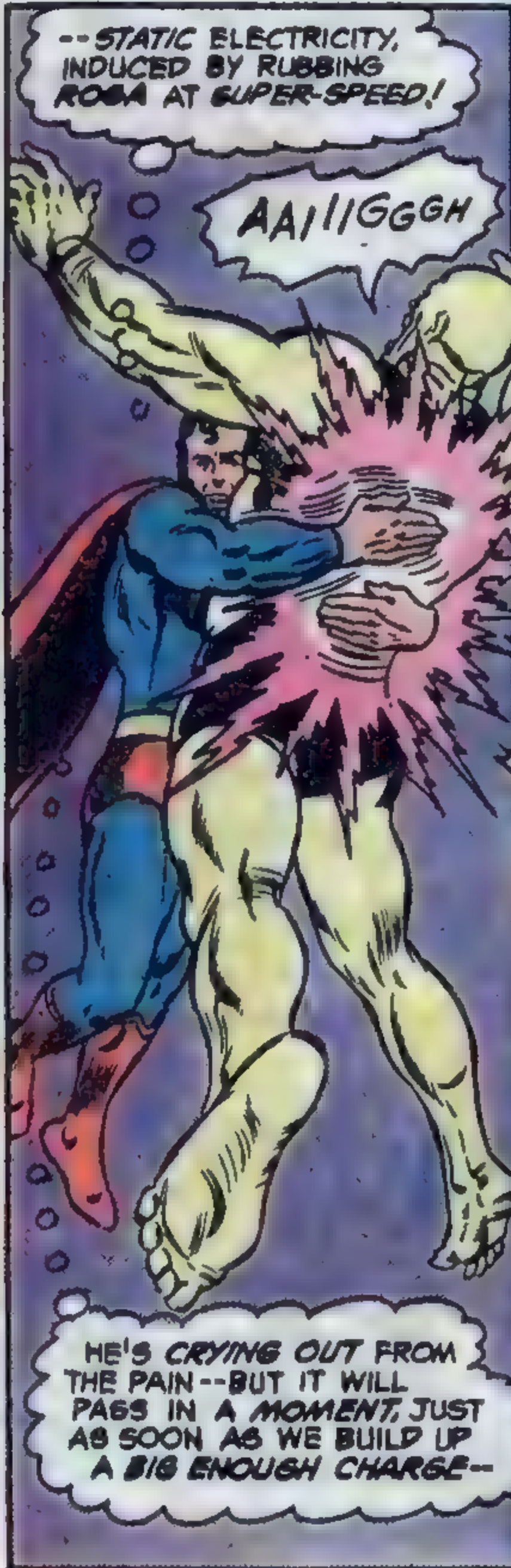


ROGA MUST BE STOPPED! HE'S A MENACE TO HIMSELF--AND THE WORLD!

AT THE SAME TIME, I WANT TO SEND HIM HOME, WHERE HIS AUTHORITIES CAN DECIDE WHETHER TO PUNISH HIM FOR HIS ESCAPADES!

AND SINCE ROGA NEEDS ELECTRICITY TO REVERSE HIS GROWTH AND REDUCE HIS SIZE--

--ELECTRICITY IS WHAT HE'LL GET--



--STATIC ELECTRICITY, INDUCED BY RUBBING ROGA AT SUPER-SPEED!

AAIIIGGGH

HE'S CRYING OUT FROM THE PAIN--BUT IT WILL PASS IN A MOMENT, JUST AS SOON AS WE BUILD UP A BIG ENOUGH CHARGE--



--LIKE SO!

ROGA IS WHITING-OUT... BEGINNING TO SHRINK!

THAT'S MY CUE--

AAAAA



AAAAA

--TO SEND HIM HOME!

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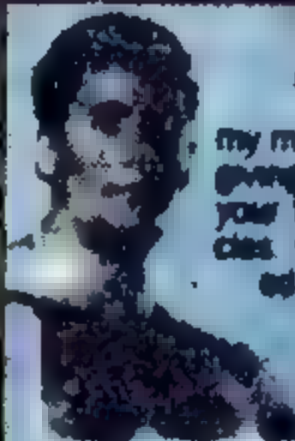
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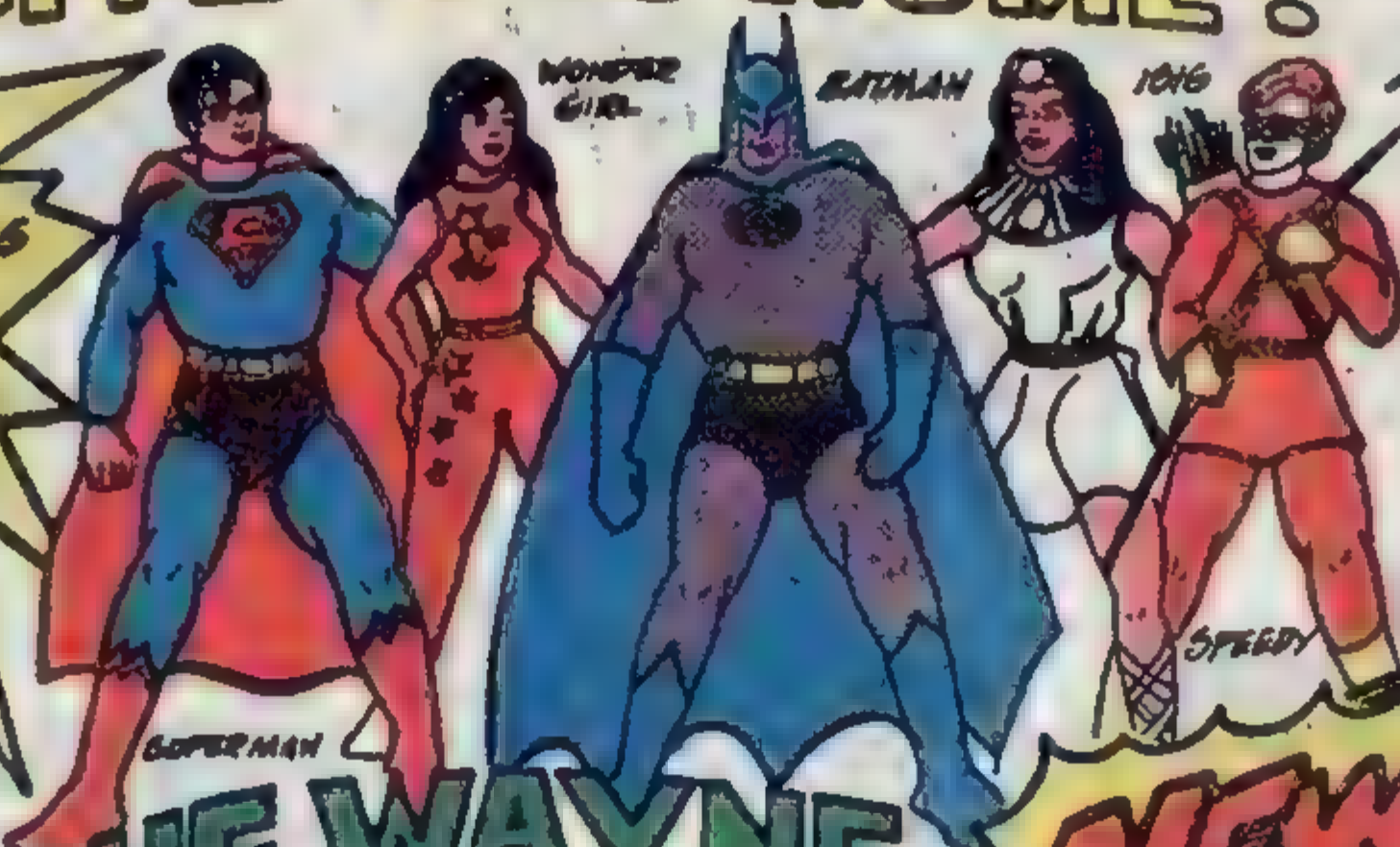
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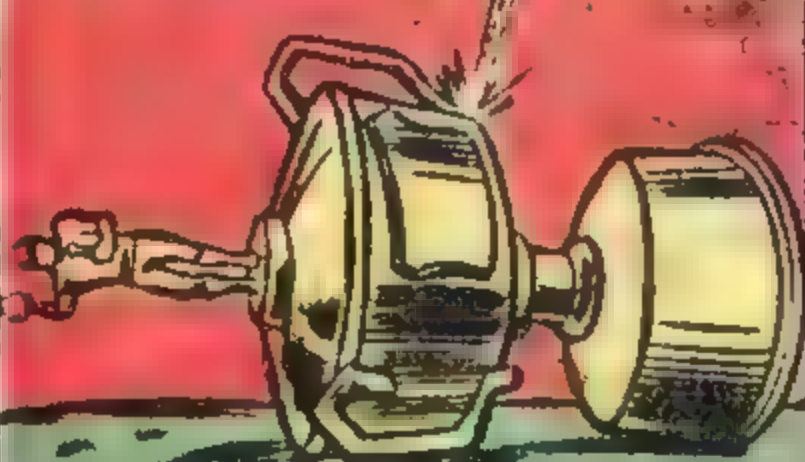
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A DESPERATE CRY ECHOES IN THE TWILIGHT, DWINDLING AS THOUGH WITH DISTANCE, FINALLY FADING INTO MEMORY...

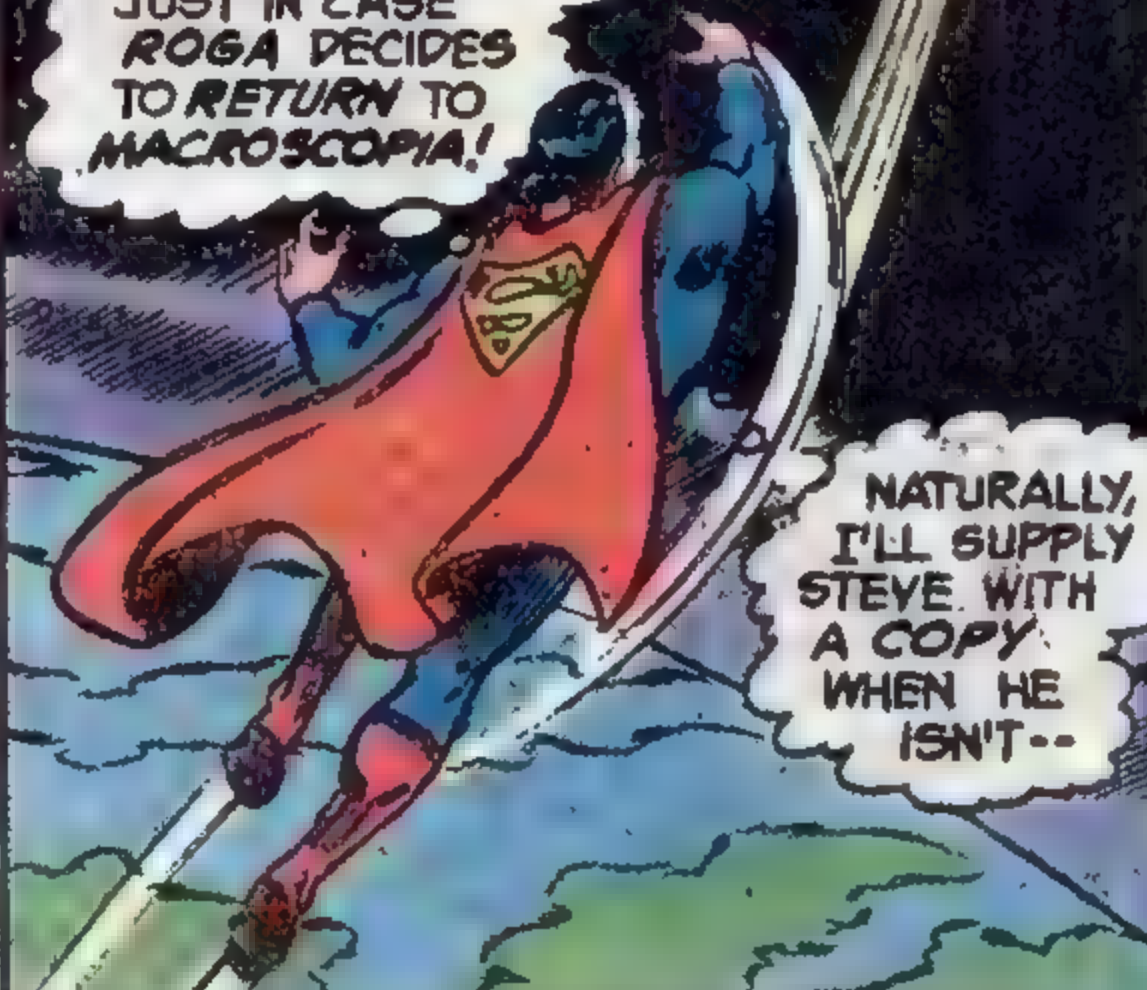
THE GIANT HAS RETURNED TO HIS GOLDEN ATOM, AND WHETHER THE HOMECOMING IS A JOYOUS ONE... NO ONE ON EARTH CAN TRULY SAY!



A SHORT TIME AFTER, ABOVE THE STRATOSPHERE...

FOR SAFETY, IT'S BEST I SEND STEVE'S TROPHY ON A GRAND TOUR OF THE UNIVERSE... JUST IN CASE ROGA DECIDES TO RETURN TO MACROSCOPIA!

NATURALLY, I'LL SUPPLY STEVE WITH A COPY WHEN HE ISN'T--

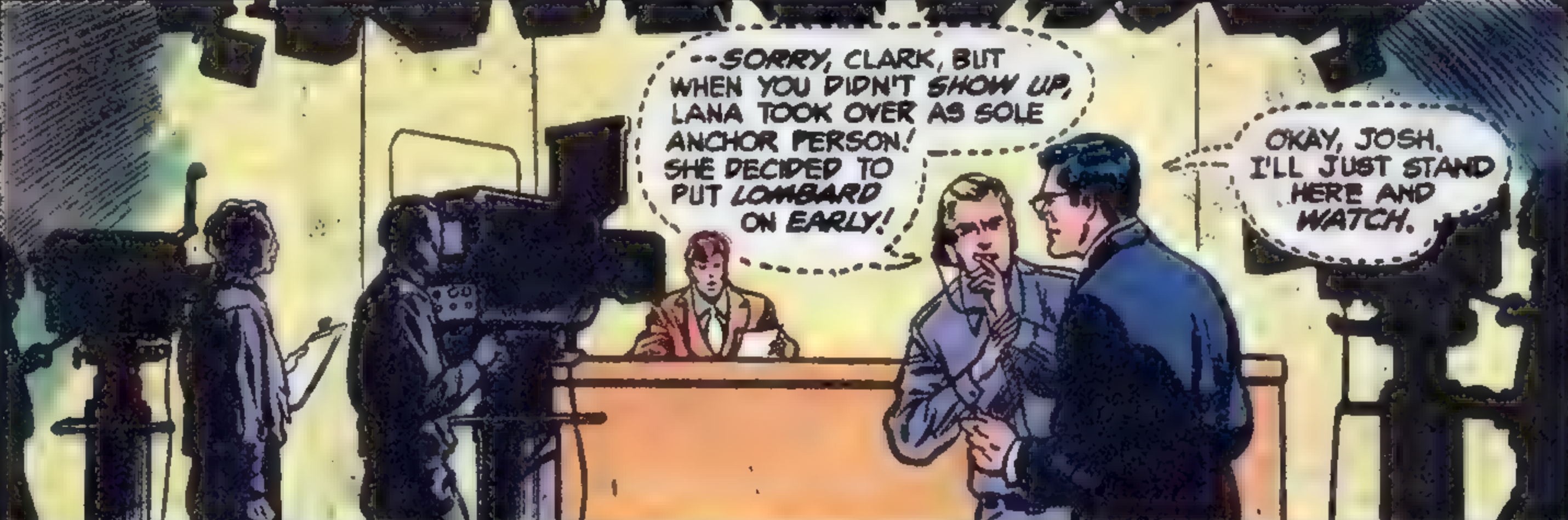


GREAT KRYPTON! SPEAKING OF COPIES-- IF STEVE TRIES TO BRING HIS TROPHY ONTO THE NEWS TONIGHT, UNDER THOSE HOT STUDIO LIGHTS--



-- SORRY, CLARK, BUT WHEN YOU DIDN'T SHOW UP, LANA TOOK OVER AS SOLE ANCHOR PERSON! SHE DECIDED TO PUT LOMBARD ON EARLY!

OKAY, JOSH. I'LL JUST STAND HERE AND WATCH.



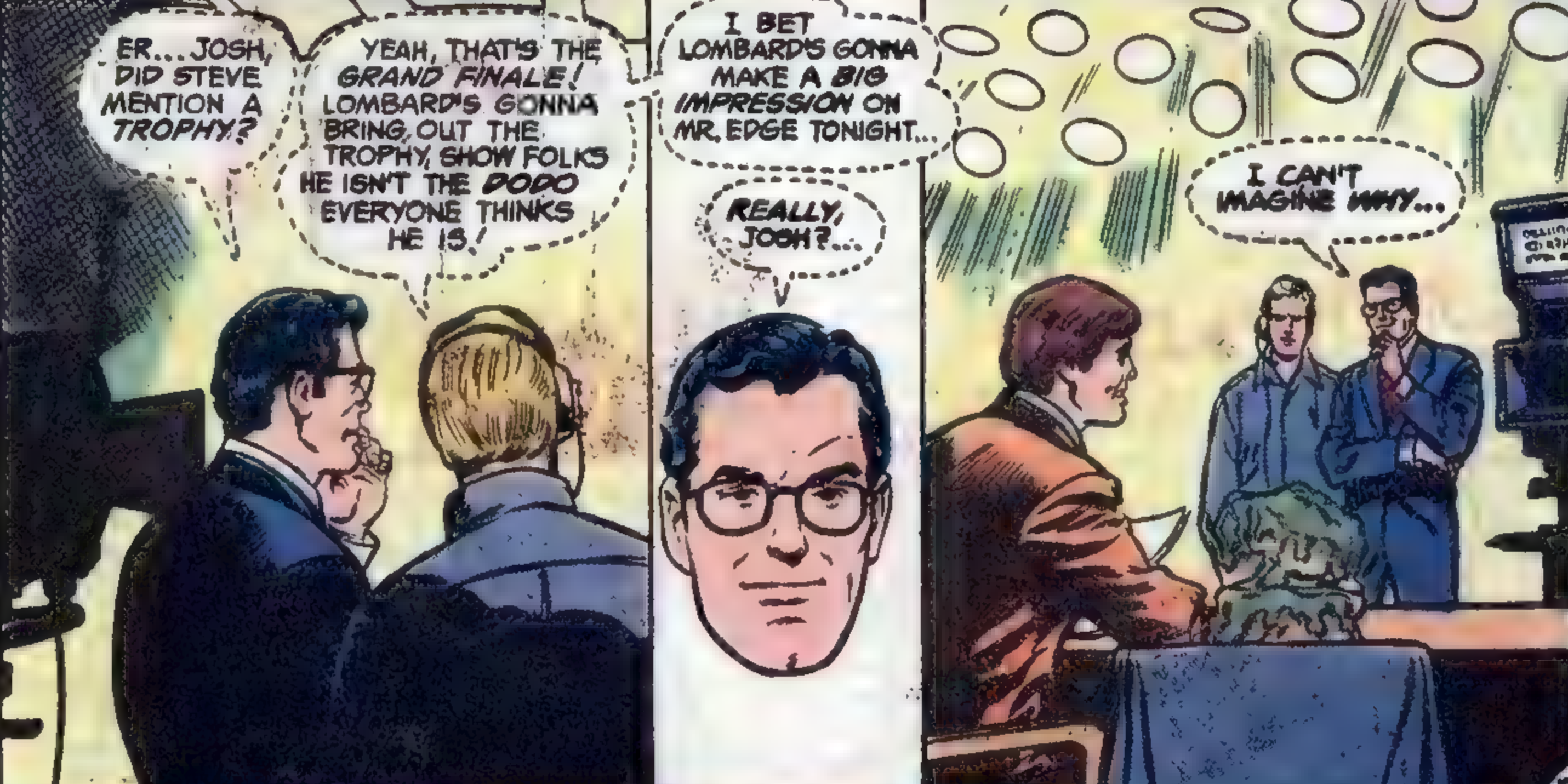
ER... JOSH, DID STEVE MENTION A TROPHY?

YEAH, THAT'S THE GRAND FINALE! LOMBARD'S GONNA BRING OUT THE TROPHY, SHOW FOLKS HE ISN'T THE DODO EVERYONE THINKS HE IS!

I BET LOMBARD'S GONNA MAKE A BIG IMPRESSION ON MR. EDGE TONIGHT...

REALLY, JOSH?

I CAN'T IMAGINE WHY...



NEXT-- THE JUSTICE LEAGUE'S MIGHTIEST FOE RETURNS--TO BATTLE SUPERMAN WITH ALL THE POWERS OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST HEROES--JUST WHEN THE MAN OF STEEL LOSES HIS POWERS! IT'S "AMAZO'S BIG BREAK-THROUGH!" IN THE FEBRUARY ACTION, #480--ON SALE THE LAST WEEK IN NOVEMBER!



Dear Editor:

After reading *Action* #275, I was drawn to my typewriter like a mermaid to a fishing trawler. I just had to congratulate you on the discovery of the brightest new DC Comics Super-Star since Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster.

I'm not talking about Francisco Chiaramonte, nor do I laud the return of Win Mortimer—or, for that matter, the scripting of Cary Bates or the art of Kurt Schaffenberger. Those guys turned in their usual mediocre jobs. I'm extolling the virtues of that new DC writer, Elizabeth M. Smith!

"The Weak Link" had brisk action; its mood was tense. Never before in my eight years of serious comic reading have I come across anyone capable of scripting such a vigorous, intense, effervescent, yet thoughtful tale of Superman's telepathic former sweetheart, Lori Lemaris.

Quick, before Liz writes a novel and wins the Nobel Prize for literature, sign her up to work exclusively for DC! Whatever feature she chooses to write, it's sure to be superlative!

Tom Mitchell
55 W. Washington, Space A-10
Yakima, Wash. 98903

P.S. Liz, should this missive be printed, don't forget to pay me the twenty dollars! I tried to copy the sample "fan letter" you gave me to send in correctly, but the ink was a little blurred in places. Also, I had to tone down some of the enthusiasm in it. I don't think Julie would have believed it.

(You can't fool us—we know not even beginning writers are desperate enough to pay twenty bucks for one letter of praise—especially when they can get plenty of unsolicited testimonials—such as the following!—E.N.B.)

• • • • •

Dear Editor:

Well, I see we're back to continued stories in *Action*, with #475's "The Super-Hero Who Refused to Hang up His Boots!" I won't be complaining this time if the remainder of the tale is carried off as successfully as was this first part. What makes the story successful? The nostalgia generated by the returns of Karb-Brak and Vartox; the pathos of the predicament of an aging super-hero (good characterization—most people find it tough to admit they're over the hill—it must be indescribably harder for a necessarily self-confident super-hero); another in the long line of super-speeding ulcers of Josh, the WGBS news director; and, of course, the inimitable art of Kurt Schaffenberger. Cary Bates turned out a fast-paced, intriguing chapter of a saga which shows promise of holding my interest throughout.

In "The Weak Link," Elizabeth M. Smith proved herself to be a capable pro as well as a vocal fan. This was a good, solid story, returning Lori Lemaris to the spotlight in a neat, effective manner. Despite her relatively long comic existence, we know little about Lori's powers or personality. Liz, in six pages, showed the mermaid shares some of the same powers as her fellow undersea denizen, Aquaman, and to be brave, injustice-hating and resourceful. Let's see more of both Lori and Liz in these pages, gentlemen.

Beth Montelone
13 Rowley St., Apt. 3
Rochester, N.Y. 14607

(See? That letter was definitely not paid for. What? You point out that this is from a reader of Liz's own gender? All right—let's see an unsolicited missive from a male fan.—E.N.B.)

Dear DC:

Hey, what ever happened to credit where credit is due? I know I wrote you guys, not just asking you to bring back Vartox, but suggesting *Action* was the appropriate mag to do it in! *(You and countless other fans! —E.N.B.)* Well, anyway, I never thought you'd also use that story to bring back Karb-Brak, and I like K-B a little more here than I did in his four-issue debut. If you can resist recapping his origin twice every issue (Cary seems to have the habit of filling us in on past developments with the same word-for-word captions) and reminding us that K-B's Earth name is Andrew Meda, you can escape camp and silliness and tell a good story.

The opening scene with Vartox was just great—the balance between the crook-catching and those two "off-camera" panels put him across as a really dramatic character. Kurt's artwork is not exactly seventies-slick, but this didn't look overly nostalgic, either. In fact, the story was (artwise) almost as good as Curt Swan, but I don't like Kurt's depiction of Clark Kent. The script, with Vartox pleading "not guilty" to the readers, was well-structured and fast-moving. Your current format of usually having a Superman story with a Superman family backup and every three or four issues featuring a full-length Superman works great for Cary's continued stories.

DC lettercol regular makes good! Elizabeth M. Smith must be awfully excited about being on the other end of this mailbox. I know when I become a DC writer (you ought to do something about that cough), I'll look at a six-page mermaiden backup in the original super-hero mag as big stuff, so I just want to congratulate Liz for getting there and on this innocuous, unobtrusive tale; I can't wait to see her imagination unleashed in the front of this book!

Richy Forman
619 Mueller Rd.
Warminster, Pa. 18974

(Well, you'll have to wait, because Liz hasn't done a lead story yet. Actually, we did get some pans for Liz's tale, but since it's her first, we decided to stick to the good letters. Watch out for the next one, though!—E. Nelson Bridwell)





BATMAN, ROCK & DEADMAN IN B&B SPECIAL!

TITANTIC TEAM-UP IN DOUBLE-SIZED ISSUE

(Gotham City)—Batman's got his hands full as the story opens in this year's **BRAVE & BOLD SPECIAL**. There's a mad bomber loose in Gotham City and only the Caped Crusader can stop him.

Meantime, over in England, *Deadman* and Sgt. *Rock* join forces to track down the thieves who have taken the *Batman* statue from Gotham Park.

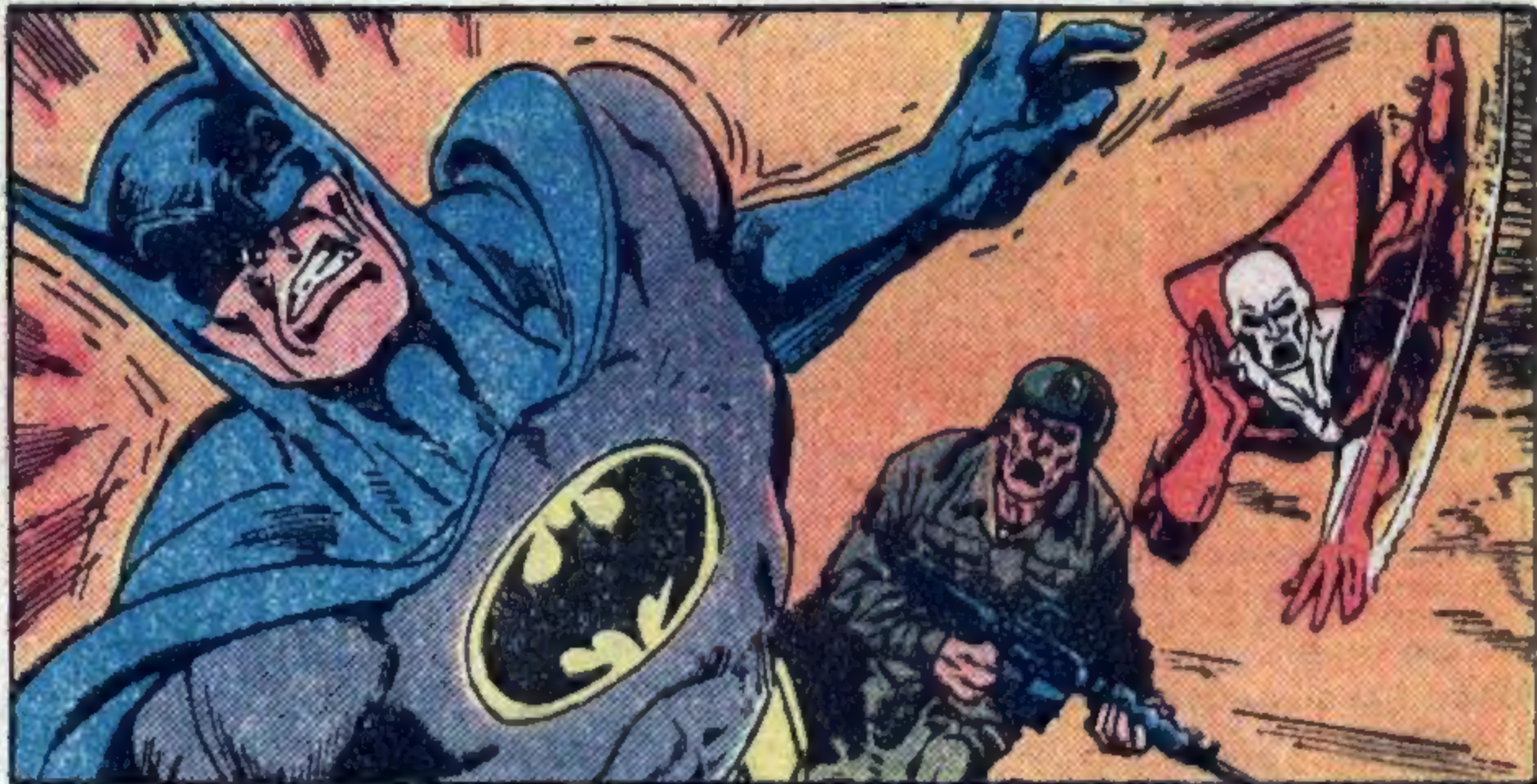
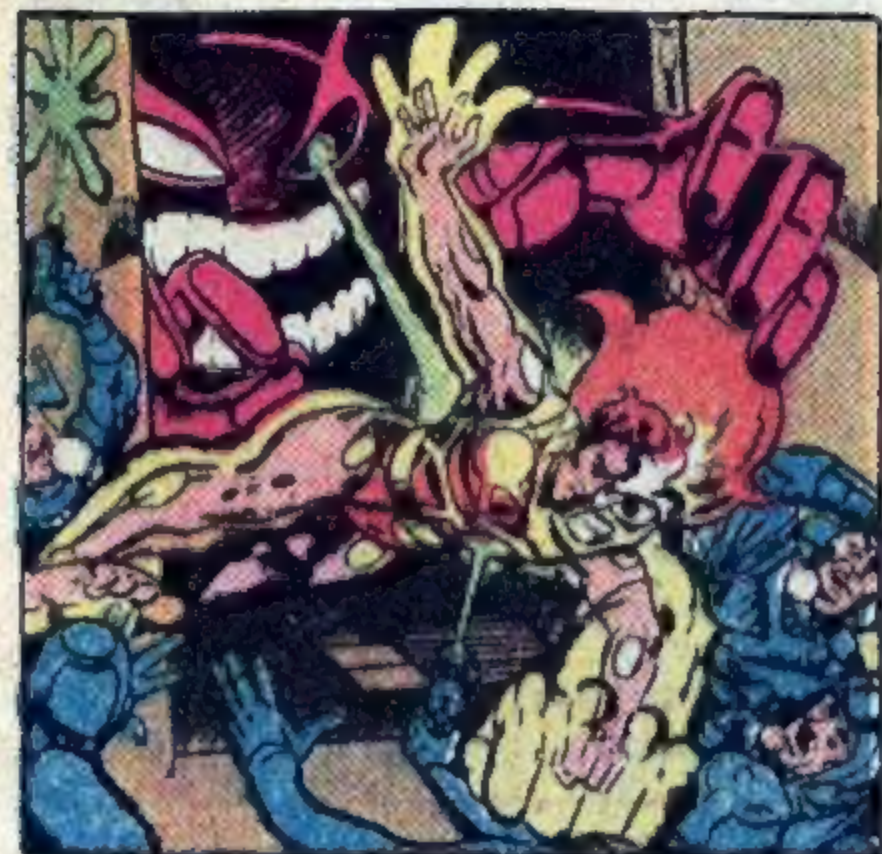
Two unrelated events, you say? Hardly... and even though *Batman* never meets up with his co-stars in this story, the two problems are closely intertwined. It's all explained in "Hell Is For Heroes", a Bob Haney/Ric Estrada/Dick Giordano collaboration which appears in the **BRAVE & BOLD SPECIAL** when it goes on sale the week of October 31st.

Editor Paul Levitz calls this issue "the strangest thing since cream cheese!" We're not sure what he means, but we do know that this is one special you won't want to miss!

VILLAIN UNMASKED IN SHADE #5

(The Meta-Zone)—Been wondering just who is behind everything that's been going on in the first four issues of *SHADE THE CHANGING MAN*? Or have you figured out the identity of the crime-lord who wants *Shade's* M-vest?

Either way, you won't want to miss the fifth exciting issue of *SHADE* as Steve Ditko and Michael Fleisher reveal the identity of this mystery villain in "Captive of the Changing Captors!" It's another inter-dimensional thriller and it goes on sale the week of October 31st!



DIRECT CURRENTS

ON SALE WEEK OF OCTOBER 31st
JONAH HEX #9—Our weirdest western hero finds himself embroiled in "The Carlota Conspiracy" by Michael Fleisher, Ernie Chan and Danny Bulanadi. This issue sports a Berni Wrightson cover!

JUSTICE LEAGUE #151—Gerry Conway takes over as scripter and *Amos Fortune* returns to change the JLA into "The Unluckiest League of All!" Dick Dillin and Frank McLaughlin provide the art.

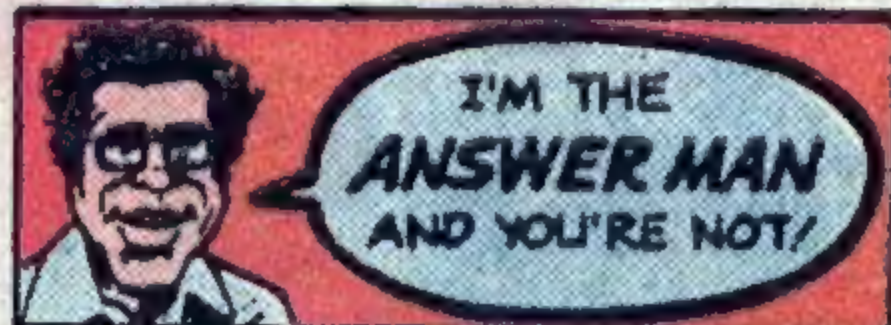
KAMANDI #55—It thrives on energy and it's after Pyra's ship and the last boy on earth! It's "The Vortex Beast" by Jack C. Harris, Dick Ayers and Danny Bulanadi.

NEW GODS #16—Orion squares off against a green giant in "The Titan and the Hunter" by Gerry Conway, Don Newton and Joe Rubenstein.

SECRETS OF HAUNTED HOUSE #10—Eve has the house all to herself this issue with "Ask Me No Questions" (by Jack Oleck and Ruben) and "Hell of a Place" (by Rich Morrissey and Michael Golden).

AND ON SALE RIGHT NOW:

ACTION COMICS #479 / ADVENTURE COMICS #455 / GREEN LANTERN #100 / UNEXPECTED #183 / UNKNOWN SOLDIER #211 / WITCHING HOUR #76 / WONDER WOMAN #239



Q: Why do all the *Green Lanterns* have the same kind of costume except for the Golden Age GL?—Darlin Robinson. A: All the other GLs are members of the *Green Lantern Corps* which is run by the Guardians of the Universe. The Golden Age GL lives on Earth-2 and is not a member of the Corps!

Q: What does Ralph (*Elongated Man*) Dibny do for a living?—Phillip Tum. A: EM does not have to work... he and Sue are both independently wealthy!

Q: Can *Kid Flash* vibrate through things like *The Flash* does?—Robbie Atkins. A: Yes, he has all the powers of the Scarlet Speedster.

Q: Who made *The Batman's* costume?—Bernard Timtiman. A: Since the Caped Crusader wanted his identity kept a secret, we'd presume he sewed it together himself!

Q: Whatever happened to the 100-page super spectaculars?—Bill Roberts. A: They were eliminated in favor of our all-new Dollar Comics, which, unlike the old specs, contain no reprint!

Q: Does *Batman* carry knock-out gas in his utility belt?—Todd Wiseman. A: Probably, but he'd undoubtedly knock us out if we tried to look!

Got a question for the Answer Man? Send it to Bob Rozakis, DC Comics Inc., 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019.



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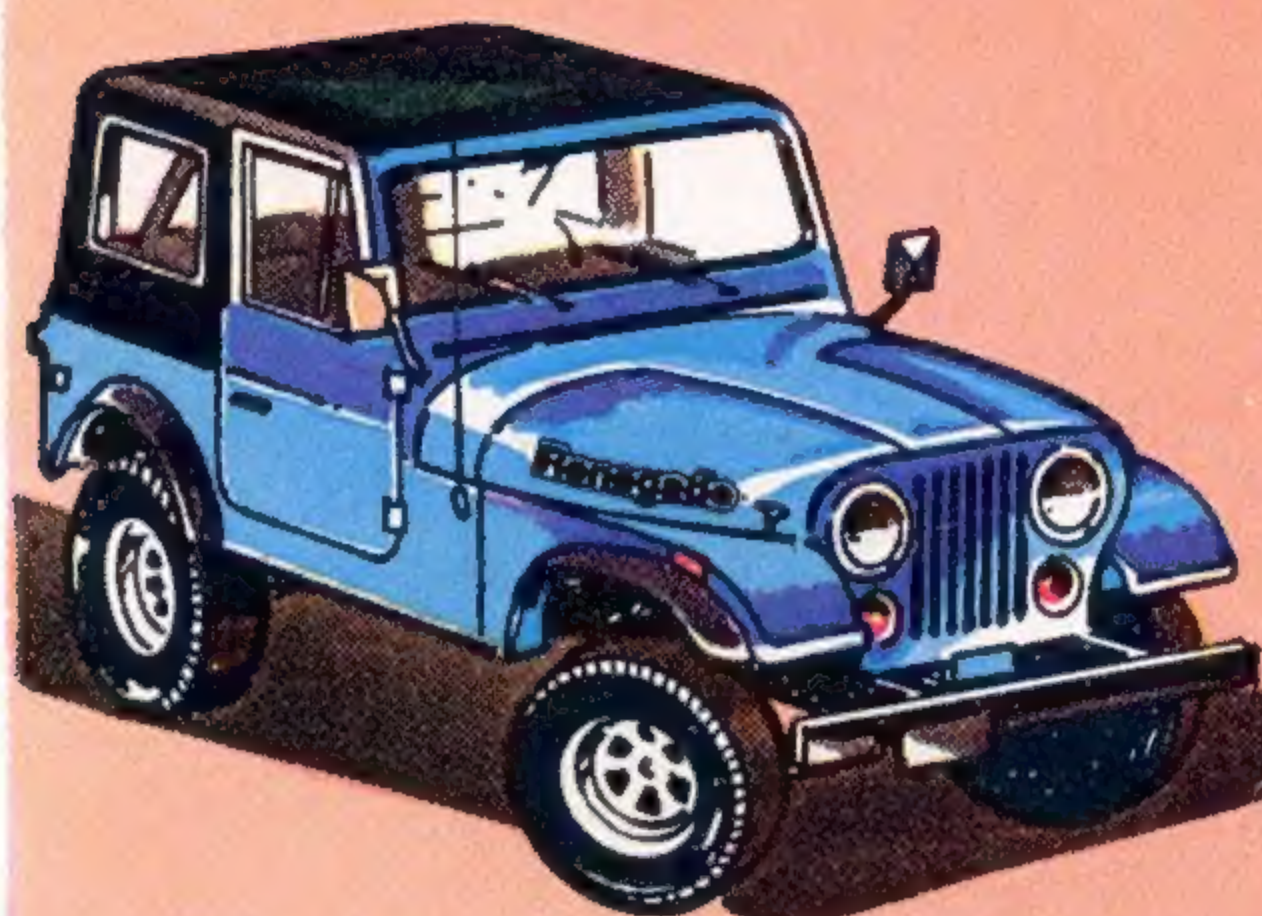
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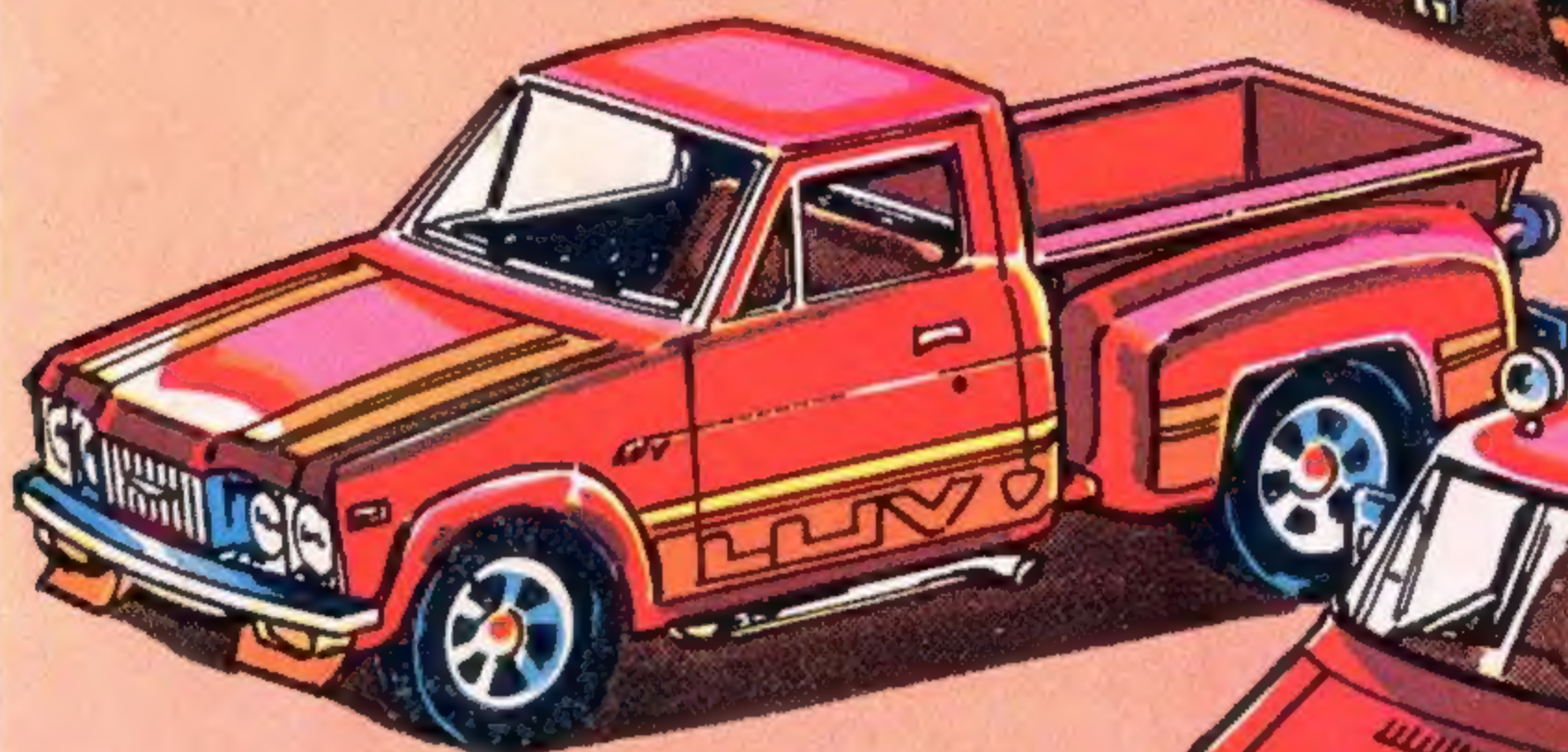
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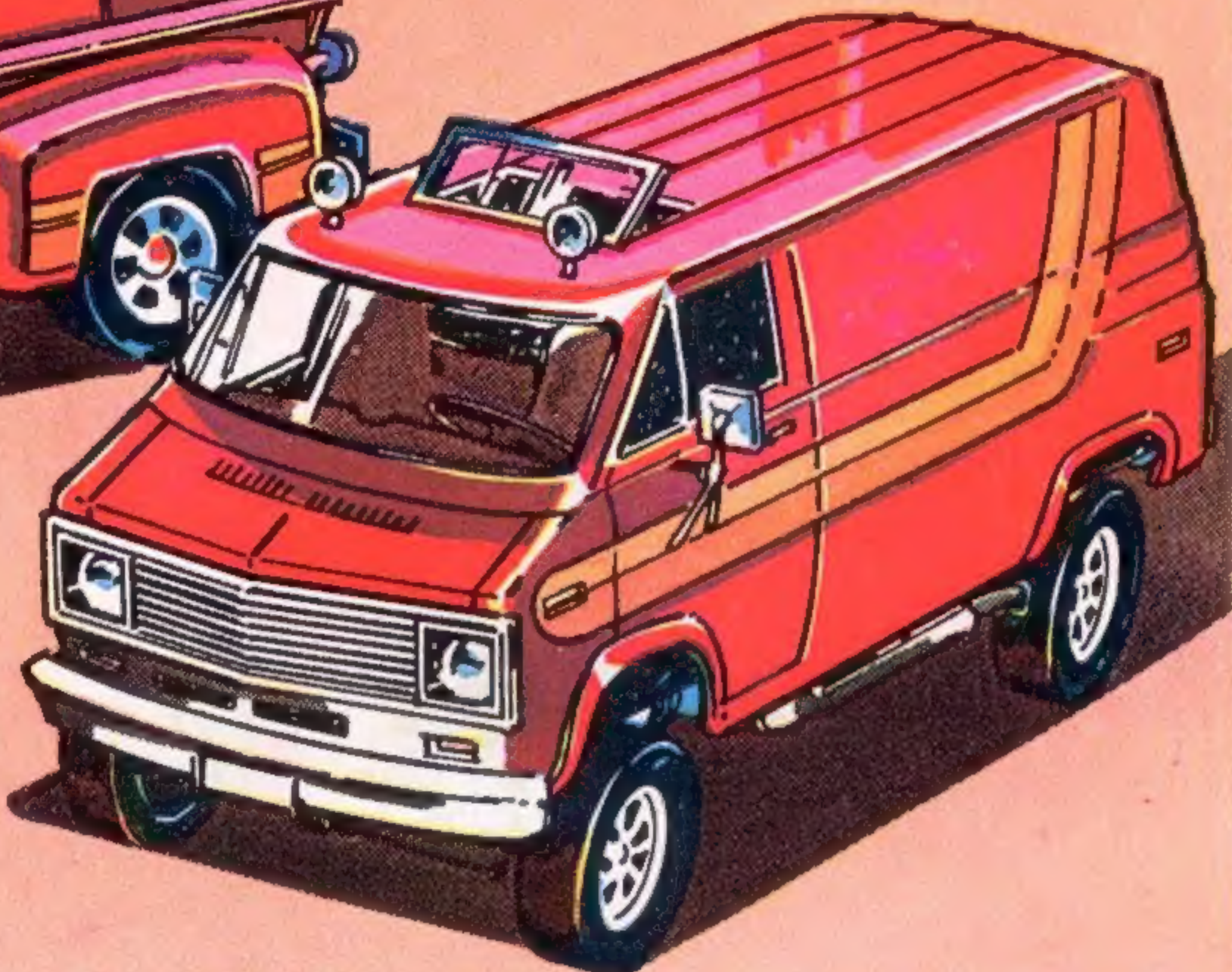
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